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Eastern Turkey Mission
1900 – 1909
Vol. VIII

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Geo. C. Raynolds

Van, Jan. 5th. 1900.

Dear Friends,

I am sure you will all be glad to know that the so long expected and desired associates have at length reached us. They will probably tell their own story, but I may mention that the difficulties which they have encountered all the way have been simply gigantic, and the pluck and determination with which they have met them are beyond praise. The Erz. Vali did all in his power to prevent their leaving that city, putting a guard about the premises, ordering the gate keepers to prevent their leaving, even for a ride, and one day an attempt was made to prevent the Eng.& American Consuls from passing. Mr. Ojalvo, the Am. V. Consul made complaint of this, and secured an order that they were not to be interfered with. As soon as this was done, he arranged to start at once, Dr. Ussher and the loads having started out the previous day. The two consuls and Mr. Ojalvo took the ladies, in sleighs, and drove 18 hour's continuously, to Komatsore, where Dr. Ussher was waiting for them, passing Hassan Kalle in the night with bells removed, and from that point only Mr. Ojalvo came on, bringing them safely to this place, where they arrived Dec. 31st. just before noon. They had succeeded in reaching a village about five hours distant Sat. night, but the accomodations were so execrable that it seemed impossible to remain there, even aside from the fact that both ladies were quite used up, and Miss Wilson was really sick. At every point where there were officials, the Vali wired to have the party stopped, and in one instance guns were drawn on both sides, but no shots were fired, nor were they delayed. The difficulties from the snow and winter weather were equally difficult to overcome. The sleighs had to be left in the snow on the edge of the Alashgird plain, from which point they came horseback, experiencing much annoyance also from their carturjees, who left them to get on as best they could without their help. In short the experiences of the whole trip were most thrilling, and are not likely to be soon forgotten. We can not be grateful enough to Mr. Ojalvo for his self-sacrificing efforts, in which he was efficiently seconded by the kavasses of the British & Am. consulates. We esteem ourselves fortunate also to have thus secured a week's visit from him, and he has most kindly interested himself in the orphanage, and has been so kind as to audit my accounts for me. The belated festivities of the holidays have been concentrated into this week. On Wed. we held the postponed Christmas reception, and during the day, including employes, 224 callers were treated to tea. Today we have our Christmas dinner, and a few presents were exchanged this morning, at the breakfast table. Maj. Maunsell is to be with us, and tomorrow evening we are all invited to dine with him., last evening we all spent the evening at the house of Bedros Agha, Kapamajian.

A considerably signed petition has been sent in, asking Dr. Ussher to see patients every day, instead of every other day, as I was accustomed to do and as he has begun. He will probably arrange it thus, that on these days he will see patients at the same low price which I have charged, and that if any one wishes to see him on other days, his fees will be much larger, and this will probably shut off the greater part of such calls. Of course, operative work will have to be outside these fixed hours, but I hope he will be able to reserve a fair share of his time for study of the language, and doing evangelistic work, in accordance with his own and our great desire. This infusion of young blood into our circle is giving us fresh heart and courage, and we enter upon the new year and century with much of hopefulness, and we assure our friends of our earnest wishes for a blessing to rest upon themall during the year upon which we have entered.

The Van and Bitlis mail bags got changed this week, and so we are deprived of our post, save the Erzroom bag, which came straight.

With best wishes from wife and self for you all, I remain

Your's most sincerely G. C. Raynolds

MAR 5 1900

Van, Feb. 2nd. 1900.

MAR 7 1900

Dear Dr. Barton,

Your favor of Dec. 4th. still lingers in my unanswered pigeon hole, and I will try to transfer it today, tho it has had lots of company, I am sorry to say. As soon as I got off my annual accounts and report, (copies of which will, I hope, reach you soon,) I began work on letters to special contributors, to include reports of the present condition of each child, based on a personal interview, and in two weeks, using every minute I could make available, I have managed to get less than 75 ready, and so you see it is likely to take some time to get thro with the 500.

You know longbefore this that our "Straight line" not only widened into a "triangle" but rounded out into a "circle", and we are greatly delighted with our new arrangements. Of the experiences our friends had at Erz. and this side, they are planning to prepare a mimeographed account, of which doubtless you will have a copy.

Dr. Ussher has taken the medical work off my hands which is an immense relief, and he also assists in the preaching and in many other things, tho he and we try to arrange that he shall have time to get hold of the language. We do not let Miss Barrows do any work that will not assist her in the same direction. Miss Wilson does a good deal inthe way of helping my wife among the girls, and they bid fair to work together beautifully. We both of us count Dr. Ussher and Miss Barrows as "A No. I" and we are all getting on nicely together, all boarding at our table, and helping to cheer us up immensely.

I trust the hints the orphanage report gives of the fruit which we are already gathering in the direction of outside schools will en-

courage you. There is certainly far more being done this year in the line of disseminating the light of the Gospel among the villages than has been ever done before in this field, and everything now seems to promise steady progress in that direction, if only political conditions can be improved a little. Several of our boys who are teaching have been in for the Christmas vacation, and the accounts they give are very encouraging. One boy from way over in Garjet, among the Shadakh Mts. reports not only a school of 30 or 40 children, but a C.E.Soc. among the men of the village! Another from the opposite direction reports 60 pupils, five of them Koorus, but weekly services on Sundays, and an incipient C.E.Soc. but from the position of the village I advised against a formal Soc. as safer, in view of Govt. suspicion. Rushaonian, the special lad of whom I have often writen, reports 120 pupils, and all as also the villagers very friendly and many desirous of finding the way of salvation. He says he is pushing a total abstinence movement, to include tobacco. Dr. Ussher and I have been discussing the propriety of gathering a few hopeful young men into a theological class next year, trying to keep them in touch with their own people, and in practical evangelistic work, while persuing a moderate theological course, instead of running the risk of sending them away to some outside field, where they might get estranged from their own people and the work we most want for them. What do you say to such a plan? Our Sunday audiences are again filling up so that we had to have nearly all the orphans in a separate service last Sunday. There is much to encourage and we feel like praising the Lord, and taking courage. Wife joins in hearty greetings to you all, and I am

Your's most sincerely

G. C. Raynolds.

Trans. Apr. 21, 1900

Personal.

MAR 5 1900
MAR 7 1900

Dear Dr.Barton,

As I know that Dr.Ussher has writen you something regarding his personal plans and wishes,I feel that perhaps it may be well for me to say a word or two on the same subject. Of course the possibility of present results suggested itself before we allowed Dr.Ussher to go on to meet the ladies,but when my wife suggested it as a possible reason why I should go on instead of his going,I replied that I was perfectly willing it should turn out so. When therefore,a short time after their arrival,the Dr.asked my ideas on the subject,I was quite prepared to wish him God-speed in his undertaking. They seem very well fitted for each other,and there are many reasons why it is much better that the Dr.should be married,as you will doubtless feel. My wife only grieved that the care of the school was likely thus to remain longer on her hands,but it seems that both parties appreciate the force of this objection and are inclined to do all in their power to help out in the school till another worker is sent for the place. This turn of affairs however emphasizes the importance of finding two more ladies to come to us just as early as it is possible.

Perhaps I was not entirely disinterested in my willingness to see this arrangement consummated,since I felt that it would make it very clear that Dr.Ussher ought to remain at Van permanently. I am glad to believe that even aside from this matter,he would be quite willing to make this his permanent home,as heseems to take very kindly to the place and the work and the people,and to feel that there is a sphere opening before him here that will be quite to his taste,and as we promise to fit in together happily,it seems very desirable that he should remain. But I feared that this question might not appear just the same to our Harpoot friends,and so was quite willing to have this additional bond to unite him to us,and I feel sure

that it will seem plain to all that Miss Barrows belongs to Van and ought not to be called away. As Dr.Ussher suggested in his letter, it is quite probable that it will be much easier to find a Dr. willing to go to Harpoot than to come to Van, and so I sinderely hope that you will soon be able to find just the man to fill the Harpoot bill, and leave Dr.Ussher to Van. In view of the fact that we have labored on so long alone and with so little complaint, I hope these statements will not seem unduly selfish.

Your's most sincerely

G. C. Raynolds.

Van, Feb. 27, 1900

APR 5 1900

6-copies

Van, March 1st. 1900.

Dear Friends,

It is some time since I have sent out a circular letter, and it may interest friends to know how matters are moving on with us. During the Chr's holidays several of our boys who are teaching in the villages visited us, and brought most encouraging reports of the work they are doing and others of them keep us informed by letter of their work. They find the suspicion with which they were at first regarded by some gradually giving way before the evidence of sincerity which their work shows, and among all classes in the city the movement is regarded with ever increasing favor. Sahag Vartabed who was the acting Arachnort at the time of the massacre, and who was my guest during those days, was soon after banished to Cons'ple. He has just returned and is acting as assistant to Nersis Epis. at the Arachnortaran. I was rather curious to see what attitude he would assume towards the work, and am glad to say that he speaks most approvingly of it and most gratefully of what I have been able to do for the people during the time of his absence, and assures me that the Patriarch highly appreciates it. A few weeks since I talked with Nersis Epis. about having some lectures on holidays, at different places and by different people, and he most warmly approved of it, and signified his willingness to take a part. Last Mond. (Dern unt Arach,) was fixed upon for beginning, and he secured the approval of the Vali. So last Mond. I gave the first lecture at the school room of the Norashen Ch. Notice was given of this lecture and of another for today, Thurs., in the churches last Sunday, and to day our chapel was filled to its utmost capacity, with a first class audience. The Arachnort had given a good deal of hope of taking the lecture, but was unable, and one of the principal priests took his place. Subject, S. Vartan, the hero of the day in which he placed special emphasis on the place given to the Scriptures in the movement of which he spoke. He then gave it a practical turn by contrasting the firmness and bravery with which those heroes stood for the faith with the lightness with which people here at the present time are accepting Catholicism for a morsel of bread, taking occasion to note the contrast of their methods to ours, thro whose hands so many thousands of lives have passed with never an intimation that change of name was desired. That such an audience should assemble for such a purpose on this the chief day of carnival marks a decided advance in morals, and I hope the whole scheme of lectures, which we hope to continue at convenient intervals, will be productive of much good. We intend to give special prominence to temperance and anti-tobacco movements. The same have been going on for some time among the orphans, and last evening we prepared the way for signatures to a pledge among the boys, which I hope to have take the form of a white ribbon movement. Are there any pledge cards for such purposes prepared in Armenian? Preceeding our lecture we sent off two of our girls as brides to a village 4 hours distant, the first time we have given girls outside of the city. They go to a village where a former boarding pupil of ours lives, whose influence has done something to open the way for the truth there, and those who came for the bride were very orderly, and gave no evidence of drinking, and I think this occasion also had a good influence. The only thing atall objectionable was that they came with a drum, but this gave the boys a chance for a little pare gentan, in which direction we have tried to keep them pretty moderate this year, and I trust it did no harm. Engagements among our young people, missionary and native, are the order of the day of late, and we are expecting a big crop of weddings by and by. Dr. Ussher has been pretty much laid aside with laryngial trouble and loss of voice for a fortnight, but is recovering slowly. Our weather is spring like, but we are needing more moisture to fill up the springs. Water has been running on our premises for a month. With kindest regards from all to all

Most sincerely

G. C. Raynolds.

APR 5 1900

Van, March 3rd. 1900.

Dear Dr. Barton,

Your favor of Jan. 10th. came last week, and I am glad that the P.B approve of the work being done here. I am also gratified by the editorial mention it receives in the Herald.

Dr. Kimball wrote for a photo, and as I have a circular letter to send, I think I will inclose all to you, and you can make what use you wish on the way. Of course I have no objection to your keeping copies of any letters thus sent.

Dr. Ussher has been under the weather for a fortnight his larynx being sufficiently affected to deprive him of the power for loud speaking. He is beginning to improve now. The Frz. friends ask for his services next month, and so I suppose we shall have to let him go for a while. He also has a call to go to Garjgan, a district 20 hours away, for the Kaimakam but I do not know whether it will materialize or not.

The Dr. and Miss Barrows are hoping the goods ordered from America may arrive in time for them to get their house in shape before the annual meeting, should such a gathering be held this summer. If Mr. Swett finds that our suggestion to ship direct to Cons'ple. by the American line, instead of as of old, by the Cunarders, and so saving several weeks of waiting, will work, we will hope they may get thro in time.

With kindest regards for all friends,

Your's most sincerely

G. C. Raynolds.

Rev. Geo. C. Raynolds, and
wife, Mich., 1900

APR 12 1900
APR 16 1900

Van, March 10th. 1900.

Dear Dr. Barton,

I have just writen a letter to the Cong. S. S. & Publishing Soc. but as no personal name was signed to the letter, and I do not like to put the name of a newspaper or publishing Soc. on the outside of my letters, if I can help it, since it may excite suspicion or curiosity, and so I think I will simply inclose it to you, asking you to deliver it, as it is in the same building, and you are at liberty to read it and so learn of our good fortune in having the pictures.

On the whole, I think I will also inclose a letter I have writen to a miss Strawn, of Chicago, and then register the whole package. Possible you may have time and inclination to read the Sassoon story before sending it, tho as she indicates that she is nearly thro with her work, it will be well not to delay it very long. The question as to the effect on our work of the publication of such a book is one that suggests itself, but as she states that the missionaries of the W. and Cen. missions have rendered her much assistance, particularly mentioning Dr. Washburn, I rather feel that perhaps I ought not to hesitate. In any case, if the publication is to be made, it seems better to have the facts correctly stated than the contrary. Sending the thing thus to you, will of course let you know of what is going on, and you can use your own judgement regarding the matter as to whether there is call for any interference in any way. Whether the Turkish authorities, knowing that Mr. Cole and I were in Sassoon, would conclude that it was thro us that the facts came out, and if they did, whether it would do any harm to our work, others are in a better position to judge than I.

There is another matter of which I might perhaps speak. As you know Mr. Ojalvo, the V. Consul at Erz. came on with our people from that place and was here for a week

While he was here there was some talk as to the desirability of having a V. Consul stationed at Van. That the right sort of a man might be of decided advantage at many times there would seem to be no doubt. Mr.Ojalvo seemed to have a good many ideas in the line of practical business and engineering, and if he were here for instance, he might be able to give us efficient assistance in such lines. He indicated that he thought that the Board was about presenting its claims in certain directions, and that there was hope that Mr.Strauss would be able to present these matters in so emphatic a way as to secure action, and that a request for such an appointment as here spoken of might be hopefully pushed in the same connection. The matter has been somewhat discussed in our station, and I think the general feeling is that such an appointment might be helpful. Therefore I would like to bring this subject also to your notice, requesting you to act as may seem best to you concerning it.

Our newly returned assistant Arachnort called on me the other day, and looked over the orphanage, and was very enthusiastic in his praise of all we are trying to do, and we had quite a confidential talk over matters, during which, as he had expressed the idea that it was a pity that some of the boys who had gone out should not have some farther education, I broached the thought I think I have xpressed to you, of calling some of them in for a little theological education, thro the joint labors of the ecclesiastics and ourselves. He expressed himself as warmly in favor of such a plan. Of course this does not insure its acceptance, but may be a straw to show which way the wind blows.

Wife joins in warm regards to yourself and family and the other friends at the rooms and at Auburndale, and I remain

Your's most sincerely

G. C. Raynolds.

From Dr. Raynolds throwing light on Orphan work from G. Khazagantz, one of the orphans who has gone out as teacher 16 April, 1900.

Rev. G. C. Raynolds. M. D.

My dear Father,

Your good lettre of Mon. has just been handed me.

I am very much glad to hear from you and to know you are successfully continuing your work. and that the Thursday evening meeting at different houses, are well attended and are doing good.

Ah! my dear father, I am in a deep sorrow hearing the death of Br. Thewont. Alas! he could do good works. had he not died. I know this, because I have enjoyed his sincere friendship. I am sure that he was a kind and good young man, and had diterminé to serve our dear, loving Saver. Yes, my dear father I also griene over his death, but am not without hope that he was prepared to go, and hence he is now

infinitely better off than he could be here. then blessed be the name of our Lord Jesus Christ! and I am comforted by those words of Psalmist— "Precious in the sight of the Lord is the death of His saints." 116: 15.

Last Sunday (April 8.) I went to Koshg and Khoorkom speaking to them over "The word of our God shall stand forever". Isa., 40: 8. First I told them something of the life and character of Jeremiah, the great prophet of these troublous times, reading from Jeremiah 36: 20-32. I brought light from every source to set forth in clear colors the condition and environment of the king, and the influences which bor upon his conduct.

Then with the story of the king's action on this occasion, afterwards I tought them some very prectical lessons.

Sunday, April 15 I preached in my own village church. There were both

the people of my village and of Turkasen. and because that Sunday our church was remembering the Triumphal Entry of Jesus. I chose to preach on the following verse.—

Hosanna! to the son of David: Blessed is he that cometh in the name of the Lord.—Matt. 21: 9.

The coming Sunday (Easter. 22 April). I have made up in my mind to preach on the Resurrection. and then I will tell them the following practical lessons. of course briefed.—

1. The resurrection of Jesus is the crowning proof that he is the Son of God. If he could not conquer death and come back from heaven, he could not prove that at the first he came from heaven.

2. It is the proof of immortal life beyond the grave; that death does not end all, but the soul lives after the body die.

3. It proves that we have a living

Savior, sitting on the right hand of G
4. It proves that our Savior, who
conquer death, has power over all
enemies. 5. It (proves) is the assur
of our own resurrection, with spis
bodies like his glorious body; all sic
weakness, and pain gone; and with
life, new powers, new joys beyon
highest conception. 6 Hence it gi
assurance of the recognition of our l
ones beyond the grave. 7. It takes awa
the darkness from the tomb. It makes
gate of life. 8. It gives largeness and bro
ness to life, everything we are and
having an influence and a meaning b
the grave. 9. It teaches the moral resu
tion, that being dead to sin we shoul
be alive with God—.

I would write you at greater length to-
were it not that I am hoping to see
you at Easter, to enjoy your morn
love — and to speak with you ab
different things that are more neces

and now, my dear father, may the God of
All Grace, be with you all the time, &
help you in all your works.
Assuring you and Mrs. Reynolds of my warm love.
and of the kind regards of my mother,
I will say good-bye. I remain.

Your very affectionate boy
Armenag Shaghoian

P.S. Please give my warm parens
to the ladies, to all my orphan brothers.
and to Mugerditch Munoshian. Tell
Mugerditch Munoshian, I hope he have
tried and will try to teach the people in
Egants about Jesus Christ, and the
great work He has done for us.

The Same

I send this letter just received
from one of these boys.

MAY 24 1900
MAY 25 1900

Van, April 20th. 1900.

Dear Dr. Barton,

Your favor of March 9th. came in due time, but I could not get to answering it last week. We are all very glad, tho not surprised that the consensus of opinion seems to be in favor of Dr. Ussher's remaining here, and I am inclined to start an intersessional vote on the subject, since there seems no likelihood of an annual, (or semioccasional ?) meeting materializing this year, in which it might be discussed. Another proposition has also been made, which I hope may meet with your approval, provided it is from the Lord as I hope may be the case. We learned that Miss Daniels had come to the conclusion that she could not remain at Harpoot, and was considering the question of returning to America, tho it was thought she might still be equal to some years of useful work, if the surroundings were to her mind. The matter was talked over among us all, and we decided to ask her if she would consider an invitation to come here, and we now learn that such an arrangement would be agreable to her. When the suggestion of Miss Barrows' marriage was made, my wife felt that this the time for her to be relieved of responsibility for the girls' school was indefinitely postponed, but were Miss Daniels, with her knowledge of the language and experience in teaching to come, this difficulty would be removed at once, and she could turn over the whole responsibility of the school to experienced hands. This of course would be an immense advantage. Miss Daniels seems to find herself somewhat uncomfortable at Harpoot, a principal reason being the feeling on the part of some of the circle that an undue intimacy had existed between her and Dr. Ussher. Of course I was not on the ground, and can not judge fully as to the facts of the case, but Dr. Ussher has talked with me freely and frankly about the whole matter, and it would seem to me true that the friendship was that of brother and sister, their feeling that the disparity in years made misunderstanding of their motives unnecessary. The proposed union with Miss Barrows seems to have met with her full approval, and that after that she should feel like placing herself in the same station with him again, would seem to show that their relations were thus Platonic, and it might be hoped that farther criticism would be disarmed, and she, as an older sister with a brother, might be able to find congenial surroundings, and a field in which she might do excellent work. Dr. Ussher received the news that this arrangement would be agreable to Miss Daniels after he reached Erz. and I understand a vote approving of this change has been started, and it seems appropriate for me to bring the matter to your attention, tho it is quite likely others may also write you about it.

During this week I have spent three days among the villages, and have spent the two nights in villages where there are boys from the orphanage. In both I was most cordially and earnestly invited to speak in the churches, and accorded a most attentive hearing, while outside the church also I talked with the people and received many expressions of sympathy and thanks. Now I am not so credulous as to believe that all these expressions were entirely disinterested, and that there was no hope behind them of some pecuniary advantage that might accrue to them in some way; but at the same time the truth was spoken, and new ideas were suggested which may hopefully start thought and prove the seed for future fruit. Whether this action of mine

will arouse criticism, either locally or generally, I can not yet say. I had talked with the Arachnort about such visits, but I can not say that he had expressed himself as in favor of my speaking in the churches. As the thing is done so generally in other parts of the Empire, I can but hope that it may not arouse opposition here. Could the way be open for us missionaries to speak in the churches whenever it lay in our way, as it already is for our preacher K~~oroozian~~, and could our boys generally enjoy the same privelege, and this without exciting the hostility of the people as a propoganda, it would seem clear that the introduction of the truth which makes free would be in the way of becoming general. I can hardly conceive of a more hopeful method of introducing the truth. On my return yesterday I found K~~eshuonian~~, the graduate of last summer, of whom I have frequently spoken as so wonderfully hopeful, and another of the graduates here for their vacation, and it is delightful to see the spirit that these young men, ~~especially the former~~, manifest. The third one will come in after he has used the Easter opportunities for speaking in the churches. These young men report very apparent changes already in their villages in the lines of Sabbath keeping, truthfulness and pure speech, and they report more or less of the people as manifesting a real interest in the truth. It is certainly no exaggeration to say that much more has been accomplished this winter in the way of village work than has ever before been even attempted. I had a talk last evening with Kashdonian on the subject of the theological class, and found that he was very enthusiastic in his desire to secure such advantages, and I hear the same thing from the other one here, while I already know that the third graduate is most eager for it. At least one or two others of those now teaching here would like to join such a class, and it certainly seems more and more as if this were a Providential leading also. It is most true that it would be desirable to have this matter considered at a mission meeting, and best at such a meeting in Van, but the day of mission meetings seems to have passed, and I don't see but you will have to take up such questions directly with the stations. Conventions and conferences, ministerial clubs, etc. seem to be for other lands than Turkey. Should such a plan as this be undertaken, I hope it can be contrived without asking the Board for funds for the purpose. As the time is so far advanced, possibly it might be as well to ask you in case you have objections to this plan, to state the fact, so that, if we do not hear from you, we may feel free, should Providence seem to lead in that direction, to begin such a class in Sep, when the schools open. Of course it is not going to be a theological seminary, and it is not atall probable that these young men would go to such a seminary, if there were one at Harpoot or elsewhere. It may be well to ask for an expression of opinion from the mission on this subject, and I think I will do so.

Wife is trying to secure a bit of rest by fleeing to the vank for ten days during vacation, and I called on her there yesterday on my way home from the villages. She joins in kindest regards to you and your family and the other friends whom you may see.

Your's most sincerely

G. C. Raynolds.

Rev. Wm. C. Raymond, M.D.
Van, April 20, 1900

JUN 11 1900
JUL 13 1900

Van, May 12th. 1900.

Dear Dr. Barton,

At last I have been able to complete my annual report, and I will inclose it today, with the Tabular View. I send duplicates of both to the Mission Sec. tho I am a little doubtful whether this is what is desired regarding the tabular view, or whether the Mission Sec. is to put those of all the stations together and so forward them.

Mrs. Raynolds has not had time to make out the reports of the Girls' Schools and of Woman's work, but I think I will not longer delay my reports, but let her send whenever she can get them ready.

We are very thankful to have been permitted to welcome Dr. Ussher home this week, and to know that all passed successfully at Erz.

Perhaps I might say a word regarding Miss Daniels' movements. She has wired to withdraw her acceptance of our invitation, tho all her letters had indicated a desire to come. The reason we do not yet know. Dr Gates has writen me that, while the station might be willing to release her from that station, it would not be unanimous in voting for her coming here where Dr. Ussher is. I have seen the letter you wrote Dr. Ussher in reply to one he sent you soon after his return from Erz. and this seems to show that you were convinced by his statements thus writen, as I had been by the same statements verbally. It would seem to me that the marriage would remove whatever objection the Harpoot friends might feel, but it seems it does not. It seems a great pity for Miss Daniels to give up the work at her age, if her health permits her to carry it on, especially in view of the great dearth of workers. It may be that matters have so arranged themselves at Harpoot that she decides to remain there, in which case, of course, I should have nothing to say. If however her plan is to return to America, this thought has struck me. Would it be possible and practicable for her to go to one of the other Armenian speaking stations and release one of the ladies from that station to come here? This is only a suggestion, and may not be atall practicable.

I sent a circular to the stations recently asking the opinion of the mission as to calling in the graduates from the villages for Biblical study. As the question does not involve the use of mission funds, I should hardly suppose it required a mission vote. The more I think of it, the more it seems to me that the influence of the boys in the orphanage would fully justify that institution in the very slight cost their coming would involve to it. I do not see how they could be sent to Harpoot without a considerable use of mission funds, which do not seem to be forth coming, even if we were fully convinced of the propriety of such a course on other grounds, and I think neither Dr. Ussher nor I are thus convinced.

Relations with the Armenians continue pleasant. I am told that my recent speaking in some of the churches has called out some comment in the Armenian papers, rather favorable than otherwise.

Hoping that Mrs. Barton's health is improving, and with kindest regards from wife and self for your family and our other friends, I am

Your's most sincerely

G. C. Raynolds.

Vienna, May 12, 1900

JUN 15 1900
SEP 18 1900

Van, May 16th. 1900.

My dear Dr. Barton,

Your favors of April 16th. and 17th. to me and 17th. to Dr. Dewey came by last night's post, and shall have an early reply.

We are all delighted at the prospect of reinforcement, and most earnestly hope that the new appointee will start in season to reach us before very late in the fall. As to what route it is best for her to take in getting to us from the Black Sea, we will wait till later to decide. It might be well to inqhire however whether any missionaries are likely to come out this year for Oroomiah and possibly the best way may be to come with them, only it is true that the Koords are on the rampage all along the Persian border at present.

With regard to Miss Strawn's address, I am awfully cut up to have been so careless. I addressed an envelope once for her, but fearing something might happen to it, I thought it wiser to send to you, and it seems the envelope was left out. Later I sent her another letter, to explain about the photos, which I learned she had got in some other way, i.e. thro Mrs. Knapp Sr. and I used that former envelope for that, and now I fail to find Miss Strawn's letter which gives the address. I much fear it will be quite too late now for the story to do her any good as she was about finishing the book, and I am very sorry indeed about it. As I know that Mrs. Knapp was in communication with the lady, I see no better way than to ask you to get the address from her. I am awfully sorry and ashamed to make you so much trouble.

The question of the Erzroom building is the one which caused me to start this letter this P.M. There seems no likelihood of a meeting, and so the only way for the mission to express their thought is by individual letters, and so I take the liberty of saying how the matter strikes me, and will triplicate my letter and send one copy to Erz. and one to the Mission Sec.

I do not wonder that the Board hesitates to make so large an outlay as is asked for at Erz. both in view of the state of its treasury and of the conditions prevailing in this country. I confess the present outlook seems to me to indicate that either the country would soon go to the dogs so thoroughly that schools for the Armenians will not be called for, or will pass into the hands of our northern neighbor, who would not probably allow their continuance. Taking these two items into the account, I should suppose that the Board would feel like making its expenditures on a moderate scale.

But even if neither of these difficulties existed, my own feeling would be against so large an outlay for a school building. That the dilapidated state of the present building renders some change imperative is self evident. That the style of building hitherto used at Erz. is unnecessarily expensive, and hence undesirable has always been my decided opinion. I believe that a building amply sufficient to accommodate the boys' school could have been built for but little more than half what the present one cost, ~~is my persuasion~~, and I should say almost the same of the missionary residence, and stable. I say this while well knowing the argument that a show is necessary to secure prestige for the schools and work in general The present condition of the boys' school would seem to show that such prestige had not sufficed to keep that school up to an efficient position. If the needs of the work, and the maintaining of a thoroughly good school will not

effect the d'sired object, I do not believe that outward show will do it. Moreover it is my very strong feeling that it is far better to have growth from within push and compell enlargement, than to build a large structure that may have to wait for many years before being filled. In this view, I should suppose that the plans which I understand the prz. Friends have made were quite unnecessarily extensive. Plans might be so drawn that a section could be erected now, and the carrying out the plan to its full extent left till the expanding number of pupils made it necessary to do so. A certain amount of building was done a few years ago. Instead of pulling this down and rebuilding it, as I am told is thought of, I should say let this stand and arrange the new plans so as to bring this within their range. Then I should say, take down the old structure somewhat gradually, and use its materials for the new erection, so far as they will go. It would seem that there must be nearly enough stone in the old building to put up a new one. I should get along without laying out much for hewn stone front, etc. Perhaps a little for trimings for windows and doors and the corners, and fill up the rest with the old stones. By not carrying the height so very much above the present structure, and not extending it beyond the present lot, and perhaps not covering all of that at first, I should suppose that the essentials might be secured at a cost not so very much beyond the sum already appropriated. With so much material in hand, I am sure that Lt 400. would put up a pretty good sized building here in Van. Of course I know that it will cost somewhat more in prz. and I am not in a position to know just how much more. I know that it is rather the feeling of the Board that when an appropriation for a particular structure has once been made, it must be considered final, and no more ever asked for for that particular object, but certainly with all the uncertainties now existing, I should say it was much better to build what is now needed, and then, after a few years, if conditions improve in the country, and the growth of the school shows it to be necessary, make another appropriation, than to make such a large expenditure at the outset.

Of course the opinions above expressed are simply my own, and no one else is responsible for them, and I simply put them forth for what they are worth.

With reference to the question of a consul for Van, I fully recognize the force of the objection that the man sent might not prove of such character as to be a help to our work, but might even prove a hinderance, and as we have got along pretty well hitherto with the help of the English Consul, I do not feel like pressing the matter, at least at the present time.

I presume our ladies will write to Miss McLaren, and it is our hope that the Kindergartner may also materialize so that they can come out together, both because we need them both at once, and because the expense and trouble of meeting new comers is becoming greater as the insecurity of travel increases.

With hearty thanks for all the kind appreciation your letter expresses, hearty wishes for Mrs. Bartons entire restoration to health, and kind regards to all our friends at the rooms, from wife and self

Your's most sincerely

G. C. Raynolds.

Van, May 16, 1900

Van, June 23rd, 1900.

Dear Friends of the E.T.Mission,

Some time since I sent out a letter asking an expression of opinion from the members of the mission on the question of calling in some of the orphans for post-graduate study, especially in the Bible, with a view of having them work within the old church in evangelistic lines. I am just in receipt of full letters from Dr.Dewey and Mr.Andrus on the subject, and Mr.Cole has also made brief reference to the subject. The general plan of cooperative work, which was outlined in my station report, seems to meet with general approval. Dr.Dewey finds it difficult to approve of the plan of inviting ecclesiastics from the old church to share in the work of instruction. I would say with regard to this feature that it is not considered an essential part of the plan, and in any case, if it were attempted, it would be unofficially, i.e. not officially applying to the Arachnort for some one to be appointed for such a purpose, but unofficially asking one with whom I am well acquainted, and of whose views I have confidence, to give say a lesson in church history, or some branch not directly in theological lines Very possibly however even this may prove impracticable.

I would like to say a word or two however in regard to Dr.Dewey's views. He thinks it was not for immaterial unessentials that the evangelicals were driven out of the old church, and thinks, as I do, that essentials of doctrine should not be yielded. As I understand it, the original purpose of our first missionaries was to introduce the Gospel light within the old church, in the expectation that the light once admitted would drive out the darkness and error. The forming a separate organization was simply because the jealousy of the ecclesiastics made it impossible for those accepting the light to secure a living while remaining under the jurisdiction of the ecclesiastics. Hence the efforts to combat the errors of the old church have had to be from without, instead of, as was first planned, from within, & consequently the work has been slow, and a spirit of hostility has been continued, not conducive to a rapid spread of evangelical ideas. So far as doctrines officially promulgated by the church are concerned, as I understand it, there is not very much that we need to object to. Certain things have crept in and been generally accepted by the people to which we should object, and other things which we consider most essential have been so covered up as to become practically inoperative, such as the doctrine of the new birth. The worship of pictures and the keeping of fasts are fast passing into innocuous desuetude, and if the pure light could be made generally to penetrate the masses, I believe that prayers to the saints would fast follow in their train. The attitude which the highest officials here now assume is that they are willing to wink at the omission of these prayers on the part of those whose consciences object to them, tho it is of course impossible for them officially to do away with them while the prayer book is unchanged. To my mind, the difficulty of the situation comes at the point of how to avoid acting against conscience in the matter of these prayers to the saints, while the transition is being made. That more has been accomplished this winter by our preacher and our boys in leading villagers to secure practical salvation than in years before there can be no doubt. As to the question of calling in the boys, since no serious objection has been made, I think we shall try to accomplish it, and as to inviting outside help in teaching, we will seek light from above when the time comes. We do not expect the plan to involve any expenditure of the funds of the Board, but hope so to arrange it that the boys can meet their expenses by a little work in the orphanage which will not seriously interfere with their studies. Trusting that the Lord will guide us all aright in this and all other matters connected with the work, Most sincerely

G. C. Raynolds.

Vm. Tuma Mar. 1900.

friends of the R.C. Mission.

Some time since I sent out a letter asking an expression of opinion from members of the mission on the question of talking in some of them for post-graduate study, especially in the Bible, with a view of their work within the old church in evangelistic lines. I am just right of full letters from Dr. Dewey and Mr. Adrian on the subject, and has also made brief references to the subject. The general plan of the work, which was outlined in my circular report, seems to meet general approval. Dr. Dewey thinks it difficult to approve of the plan without some modification from the old church in regard to the work of instruction. I would say with regard to this feature that it is not considered essential part of the plan, and in any case, if it were attempted, it would unofficially, i.e. not officially applying to the Arrangement for some appointed for such a purpose, but unofficially asking one with them well acquainted, and of whose views I have confidence, to give any in church history, or some branch not directly in theological lines satisfy however even this may prove impracticable.

Would like to say a word or two however in regard to Dr. Dewey's. He thinks it was not for immaterial unessentials that the evangelists driven out of the old church, and thinks, as I do, that essentials time should not be yielded. As I understand it, the original purpose different missionaries was to introduce the Gospel light within the old in the expectation that the light once admitted would drive out the and error. The forming a separate organization was simply because loosey of the centralized church made it impossible for those accepting to secure a living while remaining under the jurisdiction of the satisfies. Hence the efforts to compel the efforts of the old church d to perform without instead of as was first planned, from within, & mostly the work has been slow, and a spirit of hostility has been cor- not conducive to a rapid spread of evangelical ideas. So far as the officially represented by the church are concerned, as I understand, there is not very much that we need to object to. Certain things kept in and been generally accepted by the people to which we should and other things which we consider most essential have been so cov- as to become practically inoperative, such as the doctrine of the th. The worship of pictures and the keeping of feasts are fast pas- to innocuous desuetude, and if the pure light could be made generally the message, I believe that prayers to the saints would fast in their train. The attitude which the highest officials here now is that they are willing to wink at the occasion of these prayers part of those whose consciences object to them, tho it is of courses le for them officially to do away with them while the prayer book sage. To my mind, the difficulty of the situation occurs at the how to avoid acting against conscience in the matter of these to the saints, while the translation is being made. That more has complished this winter by our preacher and our boys in leading vil- to assume practical salvation than in years before there can be no As to the question of calling in the boys, since no serious obje- been made, I think we shall try to accomplish it, and as to invit- side help in teaching, we will seek light from above where the time Board, but hope so to arrange it that the boys can meet their expen- We do not expect the plan to involve any expenditure of the Tuma a little work up the orphanage which will not seriously interfere old studies. Trusting that the Lord will guide us all aright in all other matters connected with the work, most sincerely

Van, June 26th. 1900.

Dear Dr. Barton,

Last evening's post brought your kind letter of May 26th. and I snatch a moment this morning, the morning of the eventful day which is to unite for life the fortunes of Dr. Ussher and Miss Barrows, to write a line to go with the circular letter which is previously prepared. Of Miss Daniels' decision to remain at Harpoot you have no doubt known for some time. We most sincerely hope that Miss Platt may be able to join Miss McLaren, and come to us this fall, both because we need her assistance, and because it is very desirable in the days of difficult travelling upon which we have fallen to make as few trips as possible, thor the dangerous districts which surround us. We also hope that they will not unduly delay their time of starting. Last year's experiences were certainly sufficient to show the risk of such delay. If it were possible for them to start as early as the first of Sep. we should be glad. They will not be likely to take much less than two months for the trip, and it is desirable that the last stage of the journey should not run much into Nov. It is probable that the Russian route will be the most desirable, and should a party be coming for the Persian Mission, it would probably be the best way for them to join them if possible, and we would arrange to meet our part or the company either at Erivan or Khoi, as might seem best. If finding such escort necessitated their arrival as late as the middle of Nov. possibly it might be best to improve the opportunity still. We are most earnestly hoping that we shall have these recruits this fall, and also that the difficulties between the two governments may be satisfactorily settled, peacefully if possible, but anyhow in such a

way as to secure the protection of our work and the workers.

We are all too busy this morning to permit long letters from any of us. Wife joins in kindest regards to yourself and family and to all friends at the rooms, and I remain

Your's most sincerely

G. C. Raymond.

The Book is safely tied.

Van, June 26 1900

Van, July 23rd. 1900.

My dear Dr. Barton,

Your favor of June 12th. came by the last post, and we are very thankful for the encouragement it gives to expect Miss Platt's coming with Miss McLean, and I would repeat the request that they may start early enough to reach us before the season is so far advanced as to make travel difficult and dangerous.

I want to give you a little account of our examinations and other things which have been interesting us of late.

The examination of the girls' school in the walled city began July 5th. and from that time till July 14th. my wife was constantly busy with the examinations of that school, the girls' high school, and the orphanage girls, the latter constituting the closing exercises of the ten days. The boys' school had no graduating class this year, those who would naturally have completed their course now having been allowed to graduate a year ago, for the sake of enabling them to begin work in their villages at once, a plan whose wisdom seems abundantly vindicated by the results, as will appear later. The orphanage boys were examined on Sat. July 7th. while those who are in the high school course took their examinations with that school from Monday till Thursday of the following week, the exercises at the girls' school going on at the same time in their own rooms. Thursday was the chief day at the boys' school, when the highest class occupied a large share of the time, and acquitted themselves admirably, with but few exceptions, Indeed all the examinations gave evidence of good, thorough, faithful work on the part of both teachers and pupils. The girls' high school had a graduating class of four, and their final exercises occurred on Friday, when the large school room was crowded all day, tho admission was only by ticket. Nersis Episcopos, the official head of the Armenian Community was among the appreciative audience, and at the close I invited him to pronounce the benediction, but before doing so he took occasion to make some very kind and appreciative remarks, not only about the examinations then closed, but about our work in general.

It was at the examination just one year ago, when 13 boys received their diplomas, that the first public step may be said to have been taken in the line of cooperative work, when I expressed a willingness and desire for these boys to go forth as loyal members of the national church and labor for the elevation of their people. It was very encouraging after a year of effort on these lines, to hear what may be considered as an official recognition of the movement. The Bishop spoke in the kindest and most appreciative terms of the work we have been doing, both in relief and in educational lines. He Said he had become thoroughly convinced that our object was to secure the good of the Armenian people, and that we had no concealed, ulterior motive, no axe to grind: That we took the children of the nation, gave them a thoroughly good and useful education, and gave them back to the nation. Hence, said he, "This school is your school, this room, (we use it also for a chapel) is your room," and he there, publicly gave me the right hand of fellowship, with highest appreciation for myself and our work. Of course he would know that his words would be considered as official, and were liable to be published in the papers, and he would not have said what he did without careful consideration. The speech seems to go far toward giving official sanction to the cooperative movement, and was evidently so received by the audience, and many of the most influential men present took occasion to express their approval of the attitude he had taken as they bade me good bye on going out. The Bishop also took occasion to speak very disparageingly of the opposite course, pursued by some for the carrying out of personal ends, or selfish purposes, in such a way that all

present clearly understood that he alluded to the Catholics, tho he did not mention them by name. One of their chief officials and three of their nuns were present, and could hardly have enjoyed the remarks."

The week following these examinations I spent in visiting three village schools taught by our orphan boys. I have writen before of Yegheazar Rushdonian, who graduated last year and has been teaching this year at Nareg, where is situated the famous monastery of that name. There is an orphanage in the monastery with 25 or 30 boys, but Rushdonian's work has been with the village boys, of whom he has had about 90 under his care. This is by far the largest and most advanced school in the province outside the city, this village, unlike most others, having had some sort of a school for several years. Consequently there were a number of boys already somewhat advanced in their studies, and his work has been by no means that of a merely primary teacher. The highest class consisted of five boys, who have secured a good start in Turkish, have completed fractions in arithmetic, have got a very satisfactory understanding of Gospel history according to the harmony, while their knowledge of the structure of their own language was attested by their intelligent reading and explanation of difficult selections, and by very creditable essays presented, without correction, by their teacher. One member of the class had hardly clothes to cover him, and his hunger had been seldom fully satisfied during the year, and yet he stood very near the head of his class, and in the lower classes there were many bright, attractive faces, whose owners passed excellent examinations, while their utterly insufficient clothing and thin bodies bore convincing testimony to their deep poverty and frequent suffering. Two young men, teachers in Armenian schools in the city, who were present, bore most enthusiastic testimony to the excellent work that had been done, and assured me that few if any of the city schools could make so creditable a showing of the year's work. But the progress the teacher has secured for his pupils in their studies is by no means the only evidence of the good work he has been doing. It is very evident, even from so short an observation, that his work in character building has not been a whit behind that in mental culture. It is evident that the whole life of these boys has received a decided bent in a new direction, and that many in the village besides the children have imbibed new and to them strange ideas concerning religious truth, concerning the Savior and their relations to Him, and concerning their own duties and obligations to God. The work which this young man and one of his classmates in a more distant village have done this year amply justify the course we took, as alluded to above, in sending them out from the orphanage a little prematurely, for without them the beginning of this work would have been delayed, and the time to strike might have passed. The morning of the second day was given to hearing essays and declamations and songs, and then we moved on to another village four miles distant where another of our boys, not a graduate, has had a school since last fall. Neither the teacher nor the pupils were advanced like those at Nareg, but the examinations here also gave evidence of good, earnest work, of a higher grade than could have been anticipated from the moderate attainments of the teacher when he left the orphanage. The next morning we turned our steps homeward, but spent an hour or two in consultation with the vartabed who is in charge of that section regarding arrangements for teachers, etc. during the coming year. That night we spent with still another graduate, who has been at work in his village, and in the early morning examined his school also. His village is small, and he has had but about 30 pupils during the winter, and many of these have left to work on their farms, but there were enough present to afford excellent proof that here too remarkably good work had been done. This young man has had better opportunities for evangelistic work than

Khushdonian and has improved them nobly, proclaiming the truth not only in his own village, but in other near villages as well.

The evidence which this little tour has afforded of what a very few earnest workers from the orphanage have accomplished in this first year, affords us ample encouragement to continue the work and we hope this fall to send out several more workers to different places, while the three graduates of whom I have spoken are to be called in for a year or two of post-graduate study, more particularly in the line of Bible lore, and so become fitted for yet more efficient work in the future.

On my return I stopped at Zuvastan, the village where our agricultural work is going on, arriving just in time to share the mid-day meal with my boys, most of whom are spending the vacation in reaping our fields, thus saving so much expense for hire of laborers, and giving them the satisfaction of feeling that they have done their share in securing the bread they will eat during the coming year, and which I am sure will taste all the sweeter in consequence. The necessarily somewhat abstemious diet of the week had given me a vigorous appetite for the good square meal of meat stewed with vegetables and gravy which the boys were enjoying. They all gave me a hearty greeting and I was soon seated among them and sharing their repast. They had already done five hours' work in the fields and now were allowed two or three hours of rest in the middle of the day, and I remained till it was time for them to go out again for three hours more of toward evening, and it was pleasant to see the cheery spirit in which they were making their way across the grain field, the standing grain before them and the heaps ready for binding behind them.

This agricultural work is a pretty large undertaking, and just now, at harvest time requires a good deal of work and careful supervision. Most of our work-shops are closed and the instructors in them have gone with the boys to Zuvastan, as also several of the teachers, and I myself must give the work a good deal of my own time.

May I beg that you will be so kind as to let our associates in America have the reading of this letter.

We are constantly praying for our fellow workers in China, now subjected to yet greater danger than that by which we were surrounded but a few years ago, and for those who, by their means have found the new religion.

Please express to Dr. Daniels our warm thanks for the copy of Dr. Storrs' addresses which came by last post, all the more welcome that their noble author has passed to the upper mansions. I wish we might see the published account of the Ecumenical Conference, but do not know whether there would be hope of its getting thro the censor of the post. ~~If you think it would,~~ I should be glad ~~to have you~~ send me a copy ~~and charge to my account.~~ Dr. Ussher says his brother is sending him a copy, so I cancel this

With kindest regards for yourself and family and other friends, from wife and self,

Your's most sincerely

G. C. Raynolds.

6 copies

Van, Aug. 11th, 1900.

Dear Friends,

Times are getting a little exciting here these days. Maj. Maunsell has just come in from a trip on which he was robbed by the Koords, and his Dragoman received a flesh wound in the arm, while they succeeded in dropping at least four of the Koords. The Major started out about ten days ago, and visited Shadakh, and then swung around towards Julamerk, but before reaching that place, he found himself among the tribal Koords, and was obliged to spend the night at one of their encampments. Several attempts were made during the night to draw their fire, but they kept quiet, tho alert. In the morning, when they started out, it was evident that the Koords from that and neighboring camps were planning mischief, and before they had gone far they found themselves surrounded by some fifty armed men, whose numbers increased to a hundred and more. The 3 zabtiehs proved useless, and only the Maj. and Mr. Spordoni had rifles. They took the best positions they could and defended themselves vigorously. Mr. S. was soon disabled by a bullet thro his right arm, and the Maj. was left alone. They think they killed at least four of the Koords, but they had not sufficient force to rescue their loads, which all fell into the enemy's hands. After half an hour or more of pretty warm work, they managed to get back Mr. Spordoni's horse, collect the men of the party, and beat a retreat, leaving all the loads in the enemy's hands. It will be interesting to see what the result will be. Mr. S.'s wound is not serious, and they came in without getting to Julamerk.

Another affair more directly touching our interests also needs to be reported. A little more than two weeks ago over a hundred of our sheep and goats were carried off from near S. Krekore vank, late in the P.M. The next day somewhat more than half of them were recovered, but over 80 of the best are still missing. The Vali seems really anxious to recover them, & I believe he is honest, but whether he will find sufficiently faithful agents to accomplish his purposes remains to be seen. Should he not succeed in recovering them it will make all our village work very insecure, and may compel us to withdraw from such work.

I think I have writen of the feuds between some of the Koordish tribes on both sides of the Persian border. The government having sent troops to that vicinity, the contending parties seem to be keeping quiet at present, but when disturbances may break out again no one knows.

The orphanage boys have spent the first three weeks of their vacation at Zuvastan, reaping the harvest, and their part of the work having been pretty well completed, we had a Harvest-Home Festival there last Wed. We went down and found the boys busy in the field, and made an effort to get a photo of the scene. Then with the furgon loaded with grain we all went down to the village, where a delightful place had been fixed up under the trees, in the field where they have their camp, with arches, trimmed with grain and fruit and flowers, and a sheaf of wheat in the centre. The boys took position on the two sides, a chapter from the Bible was read, and a prayer offered, after which the teacher in charge made some remarks, and then Dr. Ussher and I also talked to them a little. Songs and hymns were interspersed thro the exercises, and when the literary part was completed, all sat down on the ground and partook of a bountiful meal, during which another photo was taken, as also a third later of the boys busy on the threshing floor. Permission was then given to those wishing to go to their homes to do so, but a hundred or more remain here having no place to go. The girls are spending the vacation at S. Krekore, Miss Wilson being with them, and Mrs. Ussher is there some, while Dr. and Mrs. Ussher may spend a week there later.

Our season is unusually cool, and the trees retain their green leaves much better than usual.

With kindest regards to all, Your's most sincerely

G. C. Raynolds.

Van, Aug. 11th. 1900.

Dear Friends,

Times are getting a little exciting here these days. Mat. Mammall has just come in from a trip on which he was robbed by the Koordas, and a Dragoman received a flesh wound in the arm, while they succeeded in popping at least four of the Koordas. The Mayor started out about ten days ago, and visited Shadakh, and then swung around towards Tatawra, but before reaching that place, he found himself among the tribal Koordas, and was obliged to spend the night at one of their encampments. Several attempts were made during the night to draw their fire, but they kept quiet. In the morning, when they started out, it was evident that the Koordas from that and neighboring camps were planning mischief, and before they had gone far they found themselves surrounded by some fifty armed men, whose numbers increased to a hundred and more. The 3 rabbiths proved useless, and only the Mat. and Mr. Sporedoni had rifles. They took the best positions they could and defended themselves vigorously. Mr. S. was soon disabled by a bullet in his right arm, and the Mat. was left alone. They think they killed at least four of the Koordas, but they had not sufficient force to rescue their dead, which all fell into the enemy's hands. After half an hour or more of pretty warm work, they managed to get back Mr. Sporedoni's horse, collect the men of the party, and beat a retreat, leaving all the loads in the enemy's hands. It will be interesting to see what the result will be. H.M.'s Land is not remote, and they came in without getting to Tiflanek.

Another affair more directly touching our interests also needs to be reported. A little more than two weeks ago over 2 hundred of our sheep and goats were carried off from near S.Kirakore vank, late in the P.M. The next day somewhat more than half of them were recovered, but over 80 of them are still missing. The Vali seems really anxious to recover them, & I believe he is honest, but whether he will find sufficiently faithful agents to accomplish his purposes remains to be seen. Should he not succeed in recovering them it will make all our village work very insecure, and may compel us to withdraw from such work.

I think I have written of the feuds between some of the Koordish tribes on both sides of the Persian border. The government having sent troops to that vicinity, the contending parties seem to be keeping quiet at present, but when disturbances may break out again no one knows.

The orphanage boys have spent the first three weeks of their vacation in Tarsatan, reaping the harvest, and their part of the work having been pretty well completed, we had a Harvest-Home Festival there last Wed. We went down and found the boys busy in the field, and made an effort to get a photo of the scene. Then with the furgon loaded with grain we all went down to the village, where a delightful place had been fixed up under the trees, in the field where they have their camp, with arches, trimmed with grain and fruit and flowers, and a sheaf of wheat in the centre. The boys took position on the two sides, a chapter from the Bible was read, and a prayer offered, after which the teacher in charge made some remarks, and then Dr. Shaver and I also talked to them a little. Songs and hymns were interspersed thro the exercises, and when the literary part was completed, all sat down on the ground and partook of a bountiful meal, during which another photo was taken, as also a third later of the boys busy on the threshing floor. Permission was then given to those wishing to go to their homes to do so, but a hundred or more remain here having no places to go. The girls attending the vacation at S.Kirakore, Miss Wilson being with them, and Mrs. Shaver is there some, while Dr. and Mrs. Dasher may spend a week there later.

Our season is unusually cool, and the trees retain their green leaves in better than usual.

With kindest regards to all, Your's most sincerely

G. C. Raynolds.

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Van, Aug. 13th. 1900.

Dear Dr. Barton,

I inclose with this a circular letter, with the request that the Vanlees in America, including Mr. Allen may be permitted to see it.

We are hoping to hear that the second lady has been actually appointed for Van, and also that they may be able to get a good early start eastward, so as to get here before winter sets in.

I trust we shall be able to make arrangements for getting them in safely, tho it must be confessed that travel in these regions, at the present time is not a sine cure. The English Dragoman told Dr. Ussher, when he went to dress his wound yesterday, that he was told that the Government now knew who took our sheep, that they had been scattered about in different places, but were now being collected, and within a week would be returned to us. I hope it may prove so, but in this country seeing is believing.

I send with this our estimates for 1901, tho their preparation seems almost a farce, as it is determined beforehand how much can be given to the mission, and what percentage belongs to each station. That we can profitably use all that is thus granted and more, there is of course, no doubt, and it seems almost as if it would do just as well to make the appropriation of so much, and let us use it in the way which seems wisest. However it may be better to keep up old forms.

Miss Wilson is not very well these days, indeed has not been fully well since she came, and I think was not really strong before she started. This fact makes my wife's work a good deal harder. Dr. and Mrs. Ussher are thoroughly helpful, and their presence is an immense relief to us.

We are trying now to get the titles of our premises so divided up as to bring the taxes down to the lower figure instead of keeping them at the higher figure. Most of the property is held in the name of Messrs Barnum, Scott and Raynolds. I have a power of attorney from these two absent gentlemen, but the Gov. demands, since they were made out a number of years since, that a certificate be now furnished that they are alive and still of the same mind. Apparently this certificate should be certified to by the proper official in the place where the parties reside, and visé by our Consul at Cons'ple. I will write to Dr. Barnum about it this post, and ask him, if he knows Mr. Scott's address, to write to him on the subject, but it may be that you can get word to him still more promptly. If you do not know his address, I presume Mrs. Knapp Sr. knows it, and you may know where she is. If telegraphic word could be sent it might greatly facilitate the work. Whether we sahll succeed in putting this thing thro remains to be seen, but if we can effect it, it will make a material difference in the amount of taxes we are obliged to pay.

We are sorry to learn that our Harpoot friends are still having trouble with the Govt. regarding their building permit, and that the indemnity is not yet paid, and talk regarding the matter seems to have died out, judging from what we see in the papers.

Our thoughts turn constantly to our brethren and sisters in China, and we hope that today's post may bring better news than the last.

With kindest regards from Wife and self to yourself and family n and to all friends, I remain

Your's most sincerely

G. C. Raynolds.

Van, Aug. 13th. 1900.

Dear Dr. Barton,

Since writing the preceeding page, your letter of July 13th. has come in, and brings us very great disappointment. We need the two teachers so much, and of course there will not be time for another to be found to come out this year. It is very desirable, in view of the increasing difficulty of travel, that those who are coming come together instead of by detachments. If Miss Platt is coming out this year it might be that she and Miss McLaren would travel together, and the thought occurs to me that if they should do so it would give them a very good opportunity to become acquainted and to ascertain whether they would be likely to be able to work together harmoniously or not. How would it do to give them permission, after reaching Cons'ple. to consult with Mr. Barnum and some of the other missionaries there, and if it should seem that they were likely to be harmonious, permit them to come on here together. In any case, since your letter indicates that Miss Platt is to be sent with permission for the mission to decide her location, I hardly see why it might not be just as well to let them both come on here, and then if it should seem wiser for them to be separated, it would be no more difficult for Miss Platt to go to Harpoot from here than to come from Harpoot to Van. To throw up all the arrangements because Dr. Kimball, on a short acquaintance, thought they might not prove congenial, certainly unless Miss Platt herself was very decidedly of the same opinion, seems to me hardly wise.

I trust they will have left America before this letter reaches you, but should it seem wise to accept these suggestions, it might be possible to intercept them with the new directions at Cons'ple. if not before.

G. C. R.

Van, Aug. 13, 1900

SEP 17 1900
OCT 3 1900

Van, Aug. 20th. 1900.

Dear Dr. Barton,

I have nothing very special to add to what I wrote last week, but I want to send an article which Mrs. Ussher has prepared and I have mimeographed, thinking it might prove of interest to some of our patrons. With it I send three photos which we got the day of the festival, and which certainly have the merit of being something besides "rows of children" to which some of our friends object. I do not know whether you will care to print any of them or not. It is just possible that Dr. Strong may find some use for them. You need not send to other of my friends as I will send direct to several, but I will put in an extra copy for Mr. Allen if you will be so kind as to hand it to him.

I am sorry to say the lost sheep are not yet heard from and I do not know what progress those who have gone after them are making. I believe considerable bodies of soldiers have gone after the Koords with whom Maj Maunsell had his brush, but it is too soon to know the outcome of that either.

Dr. Ussher hopes to close his medical work for a week now and he and Mrs. Ussher get a bit of rest at S. Krekore. We are having a few days of pretty hot weather now, but the summer has been, on the whole, unusually cool and pleasant.

With kindest regards from wife and self for yourself and family and the other friends at the rooms,

Your's most sincerely

G. O. Raynolds.

Van. Aug 13 16

Van, Aug. 20, 1900.

Dear Dr. Gaston,

I have nothing very special to add to what I wrote last week, but I want to send an article which Mrs. Hasner has prepared and I have changed it, thinking it might prove of interest to some of our patrons. With it I send three photos which we got the day of the festival, and which certainly have the merit of being something besides "rows of children" to which some of our friends object. I do not know whether you will care to print any of them or not. It is just possible that Dr. Strong may find some use for them. You need not send to either of my friends as I will send direct to anyone, but I will put in an extra copy for Mr. Allen if you will be so kind as to hand it to him.

I am sorry to say the Irish sheep are not yet heard from and I do not know what progress those who have gone after them are making. I believe considerable bodies of soldiers have gone after the Koreas with whom Maj. Jenness had his scrap, but it is too soon to know the outcome of that either.

Dr. Hasner hopes to close his medical work for a week now and he and Mrs. Hasner get a bit of rest at Cyrdock. We are having a few days of pretty hot weather now, but the summer has been on the whole unusually cool and pleasant.

With kindest regards from Ida and self for yourself and family and the other friends at the rooms,

Your's most sincerely,

Van, Aug. 20, 1900

Van, Sep. 17th. 1900.

Dear Dr. Barton,

Dr. Ussher and I have been talking a little about a question pertaining to our work, and I would like to ask your opinion concerning it.

Our conversation began in connection with the stealing of our sheep, and we were thinking that our English Consul was not showing any great amount of enthusiasm in pushing the question with the Govt. and Dr. Ussher suggested that perhaps we had better try to have an American Consul appointed, but it was suggested that such an appointee might be a man to help our work and might not. Then the question was asked Why not try to have one of us appointed either as consul or consular agent? It is this question regarding which we would like your opinion. I am aware that this matter has been somewhat discussed in the past, and I believe it has usually been considered undesirable for a missionary to hold such an office. I have tried to recall the arguments against it, to see whether they were valid in present conditions at Van. If I remember rightly, one was that such a consul would be overwhelmed with applications for aid from natives. I think that here in Van at least the day for such expectations and applications is almost entirely past. I think almost no applications of this kind have been made to the English consul during the last three or four years. An objection which I think has been made at Harpoot is that the many naturalized Americans who have returned to their homes there would make large demands on one's time. Here fortunately, this class of people are not found. There may be one man here with an American citizenship, but not more. I think it has sometimes been felt that such an office would interfere with spiritual work, but as I think over the matter, it hardly seems to me as if this would be the case. One point which seems to me of some force is the demand such an office might make in social directions, but beyond making and receiving calls now and then, consuls here seem to be left very largely to follow their own tastes. We have had Eng. Consuls who entertained a good deal and others who did so hardly atall. Peré de France, one of the Dominican missionaries here, holds a consular appointment, but never entertains atall, and no one seems to think the worse of him for it. It might be desirable to give a dinner say once a year, to the European circle and a few officials, which would not be a very heavy burden, but even this would be optional. I should hardly suppose that such an office would involve any very great burden in the direction of correspondence. Indeed in thinking over the matter, I do not see any very serious objection to carrying out of such a plan.

We need then to inquire into the advantages which such an office would bring.. That the presence of a consul has been considered desirable is evident from the efforts which have been made to secure it at Erz. and Harpoot. But consuls at these points are of hardly any benefit to Bitlis or Van, while such an official at Van would be of much assistance to Bitlis,, because of the contiguity of the two places. The number of missionaries at each of these two stations is as great as that at Erz. so that if there is reason for asking for such an officer for Erz. the same would hold for Van. By so much as Van is remote from great centres, by so much, it seems to me, the need is intensified. The increasing hostility to our work, and the jealousy of our workers manifested of late seem to show the desirability of consular protection for American citizens residing in Turkey. Travel in all this section is becoming increasingly dangerous. Consuls seem to have no difficulty in procuring ample guards and protection from the Govt. while it is much more difficult for us. The increased business responsibility which our orphanage involves adds a strong argument for securing all the prestige and protection which such an official might be able to secure, as shown just now in the matter of the robbery of our sheep.

Van, Sept. 17, 1920.

Mr. Barton,

Mr. Barton and I have been talking a little about a quarantine pertaining to our work, and I would like to ask your opinion concerning it.

Difficulties began in connection with the attaching of our sheep. We were thinking that our English Consul was not showing any great amount of enthusiasm in working the question with the Government. Mr. Barton suggested that perhaps we had better try to have an American Consul appointed, but it was suggested that such an appointee might be a man to help our work, and might not. Then the question was asked if we not try to have one appointed either as consul or consular agent. It is this question concerning which we would like your opinion. I am aware that this matter has been somewhat discussed in the past, and I believe it has usually been considered undesirable for a missionary to hold such an office. I have heard to recall the arguments against it, so was whether they were valid in present conditions at Van. If I remember rightly, one was that such a course would be overwhelmed with applications for aid from natives. I think that here in Van at least the day for such expectations and applications is almost entirely past. I think there no applications of this kind have made to the English Consul during the last three or four years.

Another reason which I think has been made is that Turkish authorities would have to transfer to their homes there would make large demands on one's time. Here formerly, this class of people are not there are only one man here with an American citizenship, but I think it has sometimes been felt that such an office would be a burden, as I think over the matter it seems to me as if this would be the case.

The police which is the chief force in the consular area an office might make in social loss, but I have found nothing and too having with Van and them, consular here to be left very largely to follow their own tastes. We have had the Turkish, one of the Turkish missionaries here, holds a consular office, but never embarrassed at all, and no one seems to think the worse for it. It might be desirable to give a city or say one a year to support circle and a few officials, which would not be a very heavy burden, but even this would be optional.

I should hardly suppose such an office would involve any great burden in the diplomatic or consular business. Indeed in thinking over the matter, I do not see any serious objection to carrying out of such a plan.

That the presence of a consul has been considered desirable is shown from the efforts which have been made to secure it at Erz. and Harput. But consuls at those points are of hardly any benefit to Mission work, while such an official at Van would be of much assistance to Mission work, because of the contiguity of the two places. The number of misadventures of these two stations is as great perhaps as Erz. is that if there is reason for asking for such an officer for Erz. the same would hold for Van, much as Van is removed from great centers, so real, it seems to me.

The interesting question of the relation of our work and the work of our workers, mentioned, I late seem to show the desirability of consular protection for a missionary, although in Turkey. Travel in this section is becoming increasingly dangerous. Consuls seem to be of little or no use in a small attack and protection from the Government is much more doubtful for us.

The increasing distance of our citizens involves also a strong argument for some protection. The proposed plan of action which such an official might be a measure, as I gather just on the matter of the

Yours, sincerely,

W. W. Peet.

The increased safety which might be hoped for the mission property from the presence of a consul is another consideration of some importance. For the missionaries themselves the additional hope of securing safe transit for postal matter is an important item.

In view of these considerations it seems to us wise to ask your opinion of the desirability of procuring such an appointment for one of us, and in case it should seem to you wise, that you would make inquiries as to the probability of success, were an application to be made. The matter of pecuniary compensation beyond the additional expense for dragoman, kavass, entertainment, etc. would be one regarding which we should be quite indifferent.

Bringing this matter to your attention then I remain

Your, s most sincerely G. C. Raynolds.

Later. I am happy to announce that the sheep which were stolen, or rather others in their place have just been brought in, and I feel that the Vali has acquitted himself remarkably well in this business, tho the matter did seem to drag on rather more than was pleasant.

Urgent, Sept.

OCT 15 1900
NOV 20 1900

Van, Sep. 18th. 1900.

Dear Dr. Barton,

I send a letter which will explain itself and which I manifolded so as to send copies to Cons'ple. and the stations of our own mission, to ask their opinion on the question presented.

Yesterday's post brought a letter from Miss McLaren from London, saying they hoped to reach Tabriz Sep. 28th. I have been trying to intercept her at Tiflis so that she might come on with our Russian Consul and his family, thus saving much expense and risk, but I have little hope that the word we sent to Tiflis will reach there in time to stop her there, and so it looks probable that she will go on to Tabriz, thus necessitating my making the longer journey to that place. This will give the advantage of an enforced vacation, which I confess will not be entirely unwelcome, tho it is difficult to see how I can arrange for the many affairs of the orphanage and station to keep going in my absence. If I once get to Tabriz, I shall probably feel justified in resting there two or perhaps three days, and as I have never visited that city, I shall be glad of the opportunity to see the city and the circle there.

As you will see from the postscript of the other letter, our stolen sheep have come back, not the identical sheep, but others in their place, only that twelve are short. That the Vali has worked hard to secure this result there is no doubt, and we shall try to show our appreciation in some suitable way.

You will be glad to know that we are expecting the arrival of a man to be preacher and perhaps pastor of this church, the last of this week. It is Rad. Garabed Sheerinian, who was formerly located at Treb. and more recently at Erzingan. He left Erz. last week, and hoped to reach us either Frid. or Sat. We are planning to have the first service together a communion service, and we most earnestly hope and pray that his coming will be a very great blessing to us all. His coming will make it somewhat easier for me to leave for a while. The conditions on which he comes are that he shall receive Lt 50. per year, and a house to live in, and his travelling expenses hither to be paid. We expect that the people will meet half his salary from the start, and hope they will be able to increase this proportion before very long.

My wife is just now at the vank trying to secure the rest which had become absolutely imperative for her. She has been there a week and hopes to put her where she can stay another week, after which I shall be Xxxxxxx. and at least another week will be needed to put her in a condition to carry on the work of the year now before her.

We are all busy as bees, and then lots of things remain undone.

With kindest regards from us both to yourself and family and all friends, I remain

Your' smost sincerely

G. C. Raynolds.

Trans. Sept. 18, 1900

Van, Oct. 9th. 1900.

Dear Dr. Barton,

Your favor of Aug. 8th. is before me, and I am happy to inform you that we have at last heard from Miss McLaren and are hoping to see her this week. As soon as I learned how she was coming, I sent word to Tiflis to try to intercept her there and have her come direct from Erivan to Van instead of going over to Persia. The distance from Van to Erivan is about the same as from Van to Tabriz, and is safer, and at the present time it was especially easy because the Russian Consul was just bringing on his family and she could join them and I could go on to the border with those who went to meet him, and so much of danger, expense and trouble would be avoided. But after receiving Miss McLaren's letter from London, I was in doubt whether my messages would reach Tiflis in time to intercept her or not. I wired the Consul to inquire whether she had passed or not and he replied that she had not, and I felt so much confidence that he would not send this word without knowing that I concluded to wait further developments. As his orders to his men to meet him were delayed, I finally concluded to wire to Tabriz and ask as to her movements, and went to the office for this purpose, when I found a tel waiting me saying that Dr. Wright would bring her to Van. I presume he may have been coming to Salmas for his own work, and was not averse to finding an opportunity to visit Van, as he has never been here as yet. So we are expecting their arrival either tomorrow or next day. I am much relieved in many respects to avoid the necessity of being away from my work so long, but on the other hand I should not have regretted the little vacation I might thus have secured. Perhaps I may now conclude to make a little tour some here in the field, but I have not yet fully decided.

I am sorry to say that my good wife has not been very well for the last few weeks, having clearly overdone, and she has not succeeded very well in getting the rest she needed during the last month, because there are so many things that seem to demand her personal attention. We are trying to secure for her all the rest possible. If travelling were easy, and she could slip off somewhere for a month it would be worth much for her, but this is clearly out of the question, for horse-back travel does not rest her, but the contrary.

We are sorry to learn that Mr. Stapleton is sick, and Dr. Ussher has wired them suggestions as to the disease and treatment. I hope he may speedily recover. Dr. Dewey writes that you would like the opinion of the members of the mission about using the double house and stable at Erz. for a girls' school, and erecting a new residence with the proceeds. I should certainly think this plan preferable to the one of putting up a new and expensive building for the school. I have always felt that the Erzroom buildings were on a more expensive plan than was desirable, but those which have been built can not now be changed. I should think the buildings in question might be made quite convenient for the purpose of a school, and that a modest residence for the missionaries might be erected on the lot now used for the girls' school, at a moderate figure, by using the materials of the old building as far as they would go, and being content with something not too grand.

You may be interested in a few words concerning the progress of

Recd. Oct. 18 1900

work in the villages. There is a disposition on the part of some to be suspicious of teachers from the orphanage, as being in reality, if not in name Protestants, but I accept this as a sign that the Gospel leaven is working and that Satan is stirring up opposition thereto because he sees danger ahead. So I do not worry over this. At Agants, which was the only established outstation we had before the massacre, several of the brethren have returned, and are putting the chapel into repair, and one of our graduates has gone there to act as preacher, the brethren paying half of his salary. He would have time to teach during the week, and it was suggested that we try again to open a separate school, but I was unwilling to do this, as it would seem at least to be opposed to the principle on which we have begun to work, and preferred that he should give lessons in the Armenian school. This plan met with some little opposition, but was finally accepted, and I feel that this is a decided step in advance in the line in which we are working. That such a plan as this should encounter no opposition would be unnatural, and we are rather encouraged than otherwise by the way things are going. The getting the villagers to carry on their schools at their own expense is by no means an easy matter, and will require a good deal of faithful labor.

You will be glad to know that Van at last has a preacher. B. Garabed Sheeranian reached us about ten days ago, to assume that position. He came directly from Erzingan, where he had been for a year, having been stationed at Treb. for some years previously. He is a graduate of the Marsovan Seminary, and we hope he will work in well here and accomplish a good work. The spiritual condition of our church and community is not what it ought to be, and we are praying and hoping for the blessed influences of the Holy Spirit to come and effect a change for the better among them.

The harvest this year is wonderfully abundant, and the price of bread has come down to 30 paras the oke, which we consider its normal place, but which it has not reached for a good many years. The demands of the Govt. for taxes, and the Necessity of paying debts contracted for bread during the last few months, have made it impossible for the people to get very thoroughly on their feet, but nevertheless we have felt that it was not justifiable to longer continue the free aid which we have been giving the last few years. So we have closed up the relief department, and this will give me some lightning of my burdens. A small balance of funds will remain in our hands for special cases.

We are very thankful that so many of the China missionaries were saved, but mourn over the slaughter of such a considerable number, and for the woes of the native Christians. May the Lord turn this also for the upbuilding of His Kingdom.

Wife joins in kindest regards to yourself and family and our other friends and I remain

Your's ever most sincerely

G. C. Raymond.

Vienna, Oct. 9, 1900

DEC 3 1900
DEC 14 1900

Van, Nov. 3rd. 1900.

Friends,

I am most happy to be able to announce at last that our long ex-
ed associate, Miss McLaren, has safely arrived in Van, having come in to-
at noon. Dr. Wright of Tabriz has been so very kind as to bring her
r, and Miss Halliday, of Tabriz, who had come with Dr. Wright to work in
nas, has also improved the opportunity to visit us at Van, and we are de-
nted to see them both. They had a good deal of difficulty in getting
oss the border, in consequence of the tribal wars going on among the
rds who live near the border. The Persian Govt. entirely refused to
e them a guard, saying that their men would not be safe in those parts.
y sent a messenger to the nearest Turkish mudir to ask for a guard to
sent, but this also failed. They then took a guard from one of the
rdish tribes, but this involved a long detour to avoid touching the ter-
ory of the hostile tribes, but they at length got across the border in
ety, and on this side they have met no great difficulties, save that the
ir on the border insisted on sending a package of Miss McLaren's papers
the zabtieh, but this will probably be given back here readily. The
ather the past week has been rather unpleasant however, and yesterday the
orm lasted most of the day, leaving the mountains with a decidedly winty
pearance, and last night ice formed here even, the first frost since the
ry first one, Sep. 17th. Our plain is still clear of snow.

You may be sure that we are very thankful to have our friends with us
last, and Miss McLaren makes a very pleasant first impression, and Dr.
ight says she has made a very pleasant impression also on the friends in
rsia. We hope that Dr. Wright and Miss Halliday will stay with us at
ast a week, before returning to their own work. We are anticipating the
easure of hearing him address our people tomorrow, perhaps both at the
rning communion service, when two young men are to be received to the Ch.
d at the noon preaching service.

I am happy to report that our post-graduate course is coming on well
ving four members taking the full course, while several of the teachers
the school join in a part of the lessons, and B. Kooroozian, the preacher
o is in charge of the village work, also arranges to be here during the
ddle of the week usually, and share in most of their classes. They also
end most of their Sundays in the villages, and I trust this sort of work
ll prove more and more successful.

Maj. Maunsell has leave of absence for the winter, and is expecting his
elief to arrive within a week or two now. He is coming in via Erzroom,
t the Major expects to go out thro Russia. The Russian Consul, who went
Tiflis to bring his family, and spoke of being back about three weeks a-
, and with whom we had hoped that Miss McLaren might come, could we have
cceeded in getting word to her at Tiflis, has not yet put in an appear-
nce, so that with all her long stay in Persia, our associate has reached us
efore him. He came in on Sunday

Dr. Ussher is succeeding finely in his medical work, and has his hos-
ital well filled nearly all the time, and more or less capital operations
very week. He also succeeds in securing quite satisfactory fees, and
eeps his department in good shape. He gives the post-graduates a lesson
aily, and takes his share of preaching. Our new preacher seems to be do-
ng well, and winning the good will of the people.

With kind regards to the friends all along the line, I remain

Your's most sincerely

G. C. Raynolds.

Van, Nov. 13, 1900

21
DEC 8 1900

Van, Nov. 5th. 1900.

DEC 14 1900

Dear Dr. Barton,

Just a line to go with this circular letter, to add that your kind letter of Oct. 3rd. is received, and we are glad to know that there is a prospect of a kindergartener being found for us.

We had a good laugh over the statement in your letter that you had a letter from Miss McLaren from Erz. ! and concluded you must have got so impressed with Erz. as connected with incoming missionaries for Van, Last year that your mind was still on that place. Miss McLaren has now been here two days, and she impresses us very pleasantly, and we are beginning to feel acquainted with her. Yesterday her first service with us was at the communion table, when Dr. Wright assisted in the distribution of the elements and two new members were received to the church. Last week we began holding prayermeetings on Thursday evening, on our premises, with the special purpose of seeking the presence of the Spirit with us, and hope to continue the meetings for the present. Our new preacher seems to be working in very well, and we hope for much good from his coming.

The presence of our guests keeps me very busy, showing them about, etc. and I must beg pardon for this brief letter, and subscribe myself

Your's ever most sincerely

G. C. Raynolds.

Van, Nov. 6, 1900

DEC 24 1900
JAN 25 1901

Van, Nov. 27th. 1900.

Dear Dr. Barton,

I have writen a line to the Andrusses, and as I do not know where they may be, I inclose to you, with permission to read before forwarding.

Our theological class is getting on well, and I hope is getting good and doing good by visiting the near villages on Sundays. We did not graduate any boys last summer from the high school, and as we have called in these, there are not very many out at present who are really capable of doing full work as teachers, and the villagers are not quite willing to pay teachers unless they are somewhat advanced, and able to help in writing and reading letters, and such like village work, and to take a part in the Ch. services, so it is probable that there will not be quite as many of the orphans teaching as last year, when payment by the people was not so much insisted on. But this summer we hope to graduate several hopeful boys, and I hope they will be so acceptable as to find good openings for work next winter. B. Kooroozian, the preacher who is in charge of the village work, is trying to take a number of Bible lessons with the theological class, and superintend the outside work by being away Sundays and a day or two before and after, but he is often obliged to stay away the whole week. He finds very much to encourage him in his work, as well as some things to discourage. Of course we can not expect everything to go as we would like, and now that we are not giving out money for relief, the enthusiasm toward us must naturally cool somewhat. We have greatly enjoyed the accounts of the Board meeting, and sympathize most keenly with the Friends and work in China. We are glad at the result of the home election. Wife joins in love to yourself and family and I remain, Your's most sincerely

G. C. Raynolds.

Van, Jan. 8th. 1901.

Dear Dr. Barton,

Your favors of Nov. 30th. and Dec. 14th. are before me, and have been read with much pleasure, tho mingled with sadness that it should seem necessary to cut down the appropriations still more, when we find it so difficult even now to make them cover our needs. I am happy to say that the receipts from tuition in the schools are increasing this year, and so we have felt authorized to increase a little some of the salaries of the teachers, a step which seemed especially necessary because most of the Armenian schools have increased the scale of salaries this year, and so our teachers are becoming dissatisfied. It is certainly true that all salaries, since the massacre, have been very low, and it is no more than right that the changes we are making from the first of January should take place. With the appropriations and tuition, I think we shall be able to provide for the expenses of the schools themselves, but even last year we were obliged to provide for all the teachers especially belonging to the orphanage from Orphanage funds, while I suppose it is the feeling of the Board that the education of the orphans might be legitimately provided for by the Board, if the funds atall admit of doing so.

In the Native Agency department, we must provide for half of the salary of the new preacher for this year at least, and this leaves us but a very small margin toward caring for the Evangelist, B. Kooroozian whose work is in many respects the most important of all, in an evangelistic point of view. I have writen to Sec. Essery about his case, but he does not give much hope that he will be able to help us out. We are thinking that it may be practicable for him to take books with him as he goes about, and that thus the Bible Soc. may feel like sharing in his support. Just as soon as possible, I plan to present this matter to Mr. Bowen.

Our church and community have been suffering from a pretty severe tempest, (perhaps you may consider it in a tea-pot,) over a case of too many suitors for one girl's hand. I am sorry to say that the English lady who has come here to help in orphanage work, has by her indiscreet meddling, done much to intensify the trouble. She does not get hold of the language, is of course unfamiliar with the custors of the country, and seems to fail of appreciating the fact that she was not sent here as a member of the mission, but considers it her duty to take an active part in whatever is going on in the station, and without regarding the opinions or wishes of the members of the station. We are trying to deal with the matter as patiently and kindly as possible, but it is not yet evident whereunto it will all grow. Of course I mention this, not with the idea that it would be atall suitable for you to mix in the matter at the present stage, but simply that you may know our difficulties, and be prepared, in case matters should reach a point where any definite action should become necessary. Naturally, the occurances to which I have alluded have not tended to promote the increased spirituality for which we are longing among our community. We are observing the week of prayer, but thus far the meetings are not specially well attended, but there are some indications that the Spirit is working in some hearts.

I am glad that you have been able to visit the Mexican field, and trust much good may come from the conferences held.

With love from us both, Yours most sincerely G. C. Raynolds

Wan, Jan. 8, 1901

MAR 21 1901

V n, Feb. 22nd. 1901.

APR 25 1901

Dear Dr. Barton,

Your kind favor of Jan. 25th. came to hand by this week's post, and there are more questions of which I would like to talk than I shall have time to touch this week certainly, and so I will confine myself mainly to one. Dr. Ussher has several times spoken of one of his friends as one whom he would greatly like to have associated with him in the work here, but he has not been able to get into communication with him until now. Of the man and his capabilities Dr. Ussher is writing you, as also of our feelings concerning the question of his coming here, but Dr. thought it desirable that I should also express my mind on the same subject. I can readily conceive that some might object to there being so many doctors gathered here, but you know I am no longer in that category, and should not be willing to attempt to enter it again, so Dr. Grace's coming would make but two. Dr. Ussher, while a first class surgeon and physician, and very fond of his profession, is also fond of evangelistic work and well adapted to enter it and as he gets grounded in the language he will make a very acceptable and effective preacher. He is already taking his full share of the general work, and does a good deal of work with individuals, which I believe to be the most effective method of working, and he would be glad to find more time for such work. Both he and I are persuaded that medical work might be made very effective in helping forward evangelistic work in the villages, and especially if the methods of work we are now pursuing can be continued. A Dr. could visit a village and give a certain part of his time to medical work, and find it an excellent introduction to directly spiritual work, and between the two, a good deal of time might be spent in this way. This would strengthen the orphans w o are and will be scattered around among the villages, while they in turn would help the Dr. in securing a hearing. The young men of the class such as we are now educating would be also helped in their work, and in turn help him. If we are to attempt to introduce the Gospel leaven among the villages without forming separate protestant communities, it seems to me that such means as these are the ones upon which we must rely. Dr. Ussher's work during the last year would seem to show that there would be opportunity to build up a medical work which may be hoped not only to run itself, after the initial expense of erecting and equipping a hospitah has been met, but to turn in enough to nearly or quite support one missionary. Of this Dr. Ussher will speak, no doubt. With only one Dr. here, so large a share of his time mu t go to that department of work, that he can not do a great deal in helping in other departments, such as teaching, superintending the schools, and caring for the orphanage work, and there can be no question that more missionary force is most desirable to carry on the present work satisfactorily. Besides this, my wife and I are no longer young, and there should be some one getting ready to take up the work when we must lay it down. Dr. Grace is said to have experience in business lines, and he might take the treasury work and more or less of the business departments, and leave me freer to attend to those departments which must now be all too much neglected.

Bitlis is not so far away but that the needs of the mission circle there might be largely met from here, and I think Mr. Cole feels that their need is rather in evangelistic lines than in medical.

To what extent there is danger of governmental interferance with such work it is hard to say. At present the Vali and most at least of the officials are friendly to our work. Which way Turkish officials may jump no one can certainly tell, but with the precaution of having a druggist with a diploma, it would seem that there would be no great likelihood of their being able to close up such work.

You would very naturally inquire whether the coming of such a man would involve the erection of another missionary residence. As to this, I would say that it would seem probable that so long as we constitute the third family, some arrangement can be made which will not make another residence necessary. The new rooms that have been erected in connection with our house, will not be essential for the purposes for which they are built after the orphanage work shall have decreased as it seemingly must do before very long, and then I should hope that we might arrange it so that one family besides ourselves could be accommodated in the building.

This letter is writen too hastily to give a satisfactory view of the question, but I presume Dr. Ussher's letter will suffice to supplement it, or rather this may possibly supplement his. I would say that thus far Dr. and Mrs. Ussher and ourselves have worked most harmoniously together, and I see nothing to lead me to suppose that this state of affairs will not continue. I am also happy to say that Miss McLaren is also working in beautifully into the circle.

Today we invited the graduates of our schools for a reception, from 3 to 6 P.M. and we had a very pleasant time, and the set of young people who presented themselves in response to the invitation were such as to do credit to the school, and I think all enjoyed the occasion and I trust it will do good.

I am getting toward the end of the job of preparing letters and reports of the children for the patrons, and then I hope to visit the villages somewhat, and to see to preparing the station annual reports and tabular view. I also hope to be able to write some more letters in various directions, and among them to the good people in Longmeadow.

We feel a sense of personal loss in the departure to the better land of dear Dr. Riggs, but how sweet the reunion of those glorious coworkers must have been over yonder!

Wife joins in very kindest regards to yourself and family and to Dr. and Mrs. Smith, Dr. and Mrs. Strong and other friends at the rooms.

Your's most sincerely

G. C. Raynolds.

Tran, Feb 22, 1901

Dear Dr. Barton, I duplicated this letter for you. 25

Van, March 9th. 1901.

Mr. Walter Bliss, Longmeadow, Mass.

My dear Friend,

A letter of Jan. 25th. from Dr. Barton informs me that your good people have asked that a contribution of $300. might be used for the support of native workers in this field, and asks me to arrange what work should be thus cared for, and to inform you about the same. You may be sure this is a most pleasant duty, and I snatch the first moment which has presented itself to write you about our work, and to what we are applying your contribution. I am not quite sure whether you will prefer to feel that you have a share in a larger number of workers, or care entirely for a smaller number, but rather incline to think the former may be the preferable plan.

Our church has recently called a preacher, with the hope that he may ere long be ordained as pastor of the church, but this year the Board will care for one half his salary, i.e. LT 25. One Lira Turkish equals $4.40. The next most important work of the Board here is the Boys' School, for the expense of which the Board grants us LT 104. while the remaining expense, LT 30.50 is provided for by the receipts from tuition. The sum of 104 and 25 is 129, and the half of this is LT 64.50, while $300. equals LT 68.25. Consequently your contribution will just a little more than meet one half the expense of these two items in our work. If you like then, I will consider that your contribution is thus used, and I will tell you a little about these workers.

Badvilly Garabed Sheranian is the name of the preacher of whom I spoke. He is a native of a village near Marsovan, and a graduate of the Theological Seminary at Marsovan. He was stationed for several years at Trebizond, on the Black Sea, and later was at Erzingan, in the Erzroom field for a year. He was called from there to Van, where he arrived last summer. He is a man of perhaps forty years of age, short of stature, with black hair beard and eyes. He is a good preacher, and is engaging actively in work for the people, and is pretty generally liked by them. We keep up Sabbath services at two centres about three miles apart, one here on our premises, and the other in the walled city. We alternates between these two centres while Dr. Ussher and I supply the pulpits the intervening Sabbaths. The church is growing at the present time, and tomorrow we expect that nine new members will be added to it. The great drawback to the work comes from what may be considered an Armenian characteristic, viz. an inability to work well together, and every now and then some occasion is found for division. Recently a case of too many suitors for the hand of one of the female ch. members caused considerable hard feeling, different members espousing the cause of each suitor, but the marriage has at last taken place, and I trust the hard feeling will blow over. I would ask your prayers that the members of the church may learn a better way.

The Boys' School is divided into three Departments, viz. Primary, Intermediate and High-school. A certain proportion of the boys in the orphanage attend its classes, being those whose ability, promise and circumstances seem to make it desirable for them to complete the course, graduate and go out as teachers. The rest of the orphans have their own classes separate from this regular school. There are 53 from the orphanage in the six classes of the two upper grades, the remainder of the members being day pupils. The whole number now belonging to the school, orphans and day pupils is 216.

There are seven teachers employed for this school, as follows.

Baron (equals Mr.) Sahag Tarponian is the head teacher since the massacre. He is a man about forty years of age, and was one of the first of the young men who joined themselves with us soon after our arrival in Van, and was one of the earliest church members. He has more than average talent, both in speaking and in teaching, and in many other directions, and makes himself useful in other matters as well as in the school. Before the preacher came, he took a share in the preaching work. With his good qualities, he combines considerable of the Armenian characteristic spoken of above, and does not always work as harmoniously as is desirable with his associates.

B. Iknadios Bartevian is a graduate of the school, and has been employed as teacher almost ever since he graduated. He is our most faithful and conscientious teacher, and is universally respected, while lacking some of the characteristics which contribute to popularity. His strongest point is mathematics, of which he is very fond, and in which he does good work. His health is not as strong as we could wish, and he is unmarried.

B. Ghevant Shaljian is also a graduate of the school, and is from one of our oldest Protestant families. He has more of the elements which secure popularity, is good looking, but has not quite the solidity of the preceding. Perhaps English may be considered his specialty. His older brother is the head teacher of the girls' school and they were both married a little more than a year ago.

B. Kevork Aijian graduated a year after the preceeding, and his wedding occurred during the Easter vacation. He does not call himself a Protestant, but I have much hope that he is converted, and that his influence is good both in the school and outside. His feeling is that he can effect more without being identified with the Protestant body than with. Two of his sisters have graduated from the girls' school, and his mother is a very regular attendant of our services.

B. Spiridon Jhamgochian is one of the first three graduates from the orphanage. He lost everything at the time of the massacre, and was at that time a somewhat advanced pupil in one of the church schools, in which B. Sahag had been teaching, ~~and~~ at his request we received him to the orphanage, and he did good work as Capt. of one of the companies till he graduated. Then he began work as teacher. He is instructor in drawing and writing, in which he is skillful, and also gives lessons in Turkish. He is about the tallest Armenian in the city, more than six feet I think, while the Armenians generally are not very tall.

Bs. Simon and Pedros Mukhigian are cousins, and graduated in the class of 1899, and so are but just beginning work. They are from a non-protestant family but I feel a strong confidence that they are converted. Pedros' case is rather unusual for this country, where generally people are unable to locate exactly the time of their conversion. I called him one day for a talk, while he was in the school, and he came to the point where he expressed an entire willingness to give himself to the Savior, and so I proposed that we kneel together and he then and there finish up the matter. I have strong hope that that was the moment when a new life began in his heart.

With regard to this school I can say that its influence during the last twenty years has been increasingly beneficial, and great good has come from it to the community at large.

A few days ago we invited the graduates of the school who are now living in Van to gather for an after-noon tea drink, and 28 of the total 43 responded to the invitation, and a really fine set of young men they were.

I will inclose a photograph which contains most of the teachers spoken of above. It was intended to include the class which graduated in July 1899, with the then teachers, but of the latter R. Keyork Aijian happened to be absent when the picture was taken, as was one member of the graduating class. The one at Mrs. Raynolds' right is R. Sa hag, and next him is R. Mesak, one of the teachers in the Orphanage department, whose life was saved by the amputation of a diseased leg, and I hope that the influences under which he was at that time rought were the means of saving his soul as well, and he is now efficient in the care as well as teaching of the orphans At my left is R. Harootune Shaljian, the head teacher in the Girl's school, and next him is R Goorken M Aprahamian, the head teacher of the Orphanage. Behind him, the first of the second row is R. Harpartsoom Der Haroutunian, a graduate of the school, then teaching here, but now teaching in another place Next him is R. Ikmadeos, spoken of above, then R. Spirito. Then is R. Kooroozian, our outside evangelist, of whose very interesting and useful work I may send you some account later. The next two were classmates of R. Spirito, and were from the orphanage, but this year they are not in the teaching corps. The last one however is teaching in the largest centre on the north side of the lake, where he also preaches to the Protestant community. Of the third row, the one at the right as you look at it is R. Ghevant Shaljian, mentioned above, and the remainder of the two rows were the graduating class of that year. Of the back row, the one at your right, and the next but one to him are Pedros and Simon Mukhigian, spoken of above. The second and third (from your right) of the third row, and the fourth of the back row with another who was absent, having taught a year in different places and done excellent work, are now here again for a two year's course more especially in Biblical study, to fit them for more direct evangelistic work. They go out to near villages nearly every week, and find wide open doors, often being kept up absolutely all night to tell the old old story, so new to most of these poor people.

If you have not received a copy of my annual report for 1900, please drop a line to Miss M.C. Wheeler, 40 King St. Worcester, Mass. and ask her to send you one, as they are sent to her for distribution. I hope this will also serve to continue your interest in the distinctively orphanage work, as well as that of the station.

We were sorry to learn by the last post of the death of good Mrs. Wolcott, and beg you to give our condolence to the family.

We are also truly sorry for you to have lost dear Dr. Parmes, but I am sure he will find a most congenial and useful sphere in his new abode.

Wife joins in kindest regards to all our old friends, not forgetting the Medlicott and Leete boys, who have so kindly remembered us in the past.

Your's most sincerely

G. C. Raynolds

Rev. Geo. C. Reynolds, M.D.,
Van, Mich 9, 1901

Van, March 30th. 1901.

Dear Dr. Barton,

I have mimeographed our station reports this year, with the purpose of sending them to different friends for reading, as I presume you have no objection to such use of them. I send an extra copy for the Andruses, with the request that it first be given to Mr. Allen to read and then sent to them wherever they may be. You are at liberty to read the letter addressed to the Andrusses before handing it to Mr. Allen. Of course you will be cautious about publishing what is said about the cooperative work in any way that will awaken opposition on the part of the Armenians. I sometimes almost feel as if we might hope the time was approaching when the Armenian officials would consent to this sort of work, at the same time modifying some of the objectionable features of their ritual, but I do not know. I do not suppose that they are all greatly pleased with the reception that is accorded to us here, and it would not be difficult to arouse a feeling that would put a stop to such work.

You will excuse this mere line this time, and believe me

Most sincerely and affectionately Your's

G. C. Raynolds.

I enclose you a photo of boys we are sending out.

JUN 26 1901

Th... and no avowed Protestants in any of these villages.

Van, April 9th.1901.

Dear Friends,

I am just in from a trip among the villages, and as it has been a new experience to me, I think I will write of it, not in any boasting spirit but only with thankfulness for the doors which the Lord opened before me.

I should perhaps begin with the earlier experiences of Lent. On the 2nd week I began going out to near villages of an afternoon and returning in the morning. I visited four villages, three of them those in which we had orphan girls married. In each case I was most kindly received, and invited to speak in the church, except at one place where the church was in ruins. In every instance the priests were most cordial and seemed glad to have me come, and besides the public addresses the evenings were filled with conversations. It occurred to me to make a different arrangement for Palm Sund. especially in view of invitations from different people to visit them, and so I started on Frid.noon and went to Asdvadsasher, 12 miles away, near the upper end of the Haigatsore valley. I had with me one of the theological class to open the way for me by letting the people know what my object was. The vartabed who takes the place of priest at this village received me most cordially, the teacher who has just begun a school there brought in his pupils to sing for me, and when the time for evening service came they took me with them to the church, and at an appropriate place in the service gave me a chance to address the people. At the close of the service we mounted and went on to Gughzee, where the teacher, who had written several times urging my coming, was outside the village, with several of his boys waiting to receive me. After eating I made a pleasant call on the mudir, and then spent the rest of the evening in conversation with the people. In the morning, before the service was thro, I went to the church, and was given an opportunity to address the people, and on returning to the school room where we had spent the night, we found the children assembled to be examined. Getting a bite to eat, we spent an hour or more in seeing what the children had learned, one of the older boys first reading a welcome evidently prepared by the teacher. First came the singing of one of our Protestant gymns and then came the result of a careful drill in a little catechism, which embodied the Gospel truth very satisfactorily, and examination in other branches followed. The impression it left was that very good work was being done, especially considering that the school had been running only two Mos. Then we started on, making a slight detour to visit the wonderful fountain which bears the name of Semerimis, springing up from under the Mt. a good sized river, and being distributed to water a large part of the plain, and even coming on to Van, which it reaches after a run of 30 to 40 miles. I had never visited it before, and it well repaid the extra journey to see it. Then we made our way across country to Gem, where two of our orphan girls are married. Their newly ordained priest was to perform his first mass the following day, Sunday, and they urged us so greatly to be present at that time, that we passed on, after visiting their school, to Angugh, whose priest we had already met at Gem. He has spent some time at Smyrna, and is more educated and refined than most of the priests of this region. After visiting and examining the school, he took us to the church, and gave a most cordial invitation to address the people. After service we passed on to Mashgudag, a village where we had a school for a short time many years ago. The teacher is one of those whom we consider to be converted, the priest is friendly, and there is a family who accepted the truth years ago. I spoke to the people at their Sunday morning service, and then went back to Gem for their special service. While waiting for the service to begin at the house of one of the bridegrooms, he was persuaded to throw away his tobacco takun, and empty out a jug of rake which he had in the house and gave his word to renounce the use of both. In all my addresses I used the events appertaining to the day as a text, and here, after speaking of Christ as King

spoke of the duties and priveleges of the officers whom this King appoints. The Anguh priest, who was conducting the exercises, having been the instructor of the new priest during his "40 days", also gave a very good Gospel talk, which he prefaced with thanks to me for what I had said, and for the work I had done for the people during recent years. This service over, we went to Ishkhanikoom, the village next beyond Mashgudag. Here lives the priest referred to in my report as being hopefully a converted man, and he was very glad to see me, and took very special pains to make everything at the church pleasant for me, and I made perhaps the longest address of the trip. There are several persons in his parish of whom he has hope that they are converted, and he and the teacher at Mashgudag are evidently doing an excellent work. On Monday we gave from one to two hours each to the examination of the schools in these two villages and those at the next two Horkoom and Kloshk, the latter two villages being so near as to almost constitute one village. In one of these churches I spoke in the evening and the other in the morning, and then we mounted and turned our faces homewards. Thus probably ends the special work of this Lent. I have visited villages, spoken in 11 churches, examined 7 schools, and spent 8 evenings conversation with the people of as many villages. While in all these villages many especially of the women have but imperfectly understood what I said, yet the most respectful and quiet attention has every where been accorded, and pleasure universally expressed at the visits, the complaints being that I did not visit them oftener and remain longer. At Mashgudag they said "In the olden time when we did not love you you used to come often, but now that we have learned to love you you do not come." Expressions of appreciation of and gratitude for what has been done for them during the last few years, thro our means were very many, and this is the more gratifying that they have no farther expectation of receiving pecuniary benefits. Some said "Now that you do not give us money, do give us more frequently the spiritual help we need." The contrast between such reception as this and that accorded to us 25 years ago is very marked, and is of course very different now from what it would be if they thought it was our object to break down their beloved church. One of the four members of our theological class is a member of our church, and they say that the other three are given a much more ready hearing among the villages than he is.

To what extent such efforts as these are likely to awaken opposition or criticism on the part of the Armenians I do not know, but there is no present indication of special opposition. There are now more schools in operation in the villages than have ever been known in the previous history of the province, and the people universally attribute this to our influence.

That there is a very general readiness and even desire to hear the truth among the villages there is no question, and we wait to see to what extent practical results will follow.

Two former pupils of the orphanage, one now living at Agants where there is a Protestant community, the other employed as nurse in the hospital have applied for admission to our church. Their characters and circumstances seem to make it fitting to receive them, and as they are no longer members of the orphanage, I suppose it is no breach of the promise given when the work started, not to make the children Protestants while in the orphanage.

Of course it would be unwise to publish the particular statements contained in this letter.

I remain Your's very sincerely

G C. Raynolds.

1/4/1

MAY 13 1901
JUN 26 1901

Van, April 10th. 1901.

Dear Dr. Barton,

Yesterday's post brought your letter to Mrs. Raynolds from which we learn that you are about starting for India, and it is not certain that this will reach you before you leave.

I have writen a little account of the work I have been doing during Lent, and would like to have the former members of our circle, now in America see it, if you will be so kind as to arrange it. It seems to me a rather remarkable condition of affairs when such a free entrance into their churches is accorded to us, and such a general desire to hear the truth is manifested, and I can but hope that souls are being born again, some of them known to us, and possibly more unknown. We want to be sensitive to the Lord's leading in all this work, and I hope we shall not be left to make mistakes.

We wish you a most successful and prosperous trip to India, and pray that the work in that great country may receive a decided impulse in the right direction thro your visit. When is Turkey to have her turn? It seems as if an opportunity for the workers in this land to consult together as to the progress of affairs here and to receive advice from the representative of the Board were most desirable, but it is of course evident that there are difficulties in the way of such gatherings.

We are wondering who the "We" who are about starting includes. I fancy that your good wife is hardly well enough to undertake such a trip. With kindest regards and best wishes for you all,

Your's most sincerely

G. C. Raynolds.

Rev. [illegible] Reynolds, M. D.,

Van, April 10, 1901

Van, May 6th, 1901

MAY 8 1901
NOV 26 1901

Dear Friends,

A week ago last Thursday I started for Bitlis, reaching there on Sat. and having a hard rain storm for the last day. On the next Wed. I set out for the return, bringing Miss Mary Fly and Miss Mamie Cole with me for a little visit. On reaching home Sat. P.M. we were delighted to find Messrs Coan and Sterrett from Oroomiah here, and so we are enjoying a charming visit from these friends. Yesterday morning was our communion service, with three new members communing for the first time, and at the noon service Mr. Coan preached at the gardens and Mr. Sterrett at the city. Mr. Coan brought a zon-o-phone for Miss Fly and Miss F. kindly brought over some magic lantern slides, and so we anticipate giving our children a treat with both these instruments. We are still having rain here with snow on the Mts. last night, so that the outlook for the crops continues excellent.

Mr. Cole and his family had planned to come over at this time, but the Bitlis Vali was not able to give him any permit for travelling, either to come here or to visit his outstations, and even intimated that it was almost doubtful whether it would be considered allowable for him even to go so far as to the Mt. encampment this summer. Now it does seem to me that this is an outrage that our Govt. should not permit to be continued. It seems clear that the source of the trouble is not at Bitlis but at the Capital, since the Vali and the local officials seem most friendly, but the Vali receives strict orders from above which he does not feel at liberty to ignore. It is clear that Mr Cole has given no occasion whatever fro any suspicion to attachto him, and the authorities have no reason whatever to suspect him of even sympathy with the revolutionists, which seems to be the ostensible reason for their suspicion. On the contrary, no one could be more thoroughly disgusted with them. Now it does seem to me that this condition of affairs should not be permitted to continue. If such treatment can succeed in Bitlis, what reason is there for us to expect that it may not be tried in any other station? They succeeded in deporting Mr. Shepard, and nothing particular was done about it, and now it would seem they might be planning to repeat the experiment with Mr. Cole. All the time I was there police were on duty watching the premises, and when I went out they followed me. Now I would suggest that the Americans in the different stations press this matter on the attention of our Minister, and push hard to get something satisfactory done about this matter. A copy of this letter goes to our friends in Cons'ple. with the request that they make what use of it may seem best to them with our Minister or our home Govt. I went over to get these ladies with the expectation that Mr. Cole would come half way or so to meet them on the return, but it seems doubtful if he will be permitted to come out even one day's journey. His work in the villages remains on the ground, and he can not even visit them to perform marriages or administer the communion, and there is no ordained preacher in the field who can do it. I do feel that we can not too earnestly protest against such treatment of a free born American by this Govt. and I hope our associates will feel like doing all in their power to rectify this abuse, and if necessary that our Board will use all proper influence at home to secure Mr. Cole's rights.

The Koords in this vilayet and in Bitlis seem to be getting on the rampage and are waring among themselves, but at present I do not hear that the Armenians are suffering directly in consequence. It may make travel somewhat more than usually insecure however. I am wondering what the status of the annual meeting vote may be. I take it that the vote not to have one fails to carry, but that is not voting to have a meeting, and seems to leave the matter hanging by the gills. Wish it were possible for the delegates to be with us at the present time when our friends from Persia could attend. With love to all, Most sincerely

G. C. Raynolds.

JUN 25 1901

Van, May 27th. 1901.

Dear Dr. Barton, or his Representative,

We hope you are well on your way toward the east, but I want to bring one or two matters to the attention of the good people at the Rooms.

The letters regarding the making out of estimates, and asking for information concerning the needs of the work here were received some little time ago, but owing to my absence from home it has not been possible for us to give them the consideration they need in time to send an answer by this post. We plan to give this evening to their consideration, and I hope an answer may be ready for next week's post.

The thing for which I especially write today is to urge that if atall possible, the kindergartner for whom we have been so long looking may be appointed in time to come out this fall. Our need is very pressing, since we have a large kindergarten which can be but imperfectly conducted by the native assistants who are available, while there is material for yet other classes to be gathered from most desirable families, by whose means we may hope to get hold of a class of pupils whom we have not yet been able to reach and influence them for good. We almost feel as if we could not even keep up the present classes without help from America, and as we feel a little as if we were cheated out of the one we expected when Miss ~~Barrows~~ McLaren came, we desire to put in a very strong plea that this fall be not allowed to pass without one being sent. The difficulty of getting people in is considerable and I would especially urge that if the Allens come to Erz. a lady come with them, or else one come with Mr. and Mrs. Labaree of Oroomiah, who are expecting, I believe to come out this fall. Even quite aside from the kindergarten work we are in very great need of assistance in caring for the girls in the orphanage and the school. We have an English lady with us just now, but it is not certain that she will remain longer than till fall, and even now my good wife is very much overborne with the duties and responsibilities which press upon her, and is in danger of giving way under the strain. Both she and I have reached the age where it is not safe to pile on the loads too high, and it seems a better economy of forces to conserve what is on the ground, and send new recruits to work in before the older ones entirely give out, than to wait till all have fallen and then send in those who know nothing of the work.

In the name of the whole station then I urge that a lady be sent out by one or the other of the opportunities suggested.

I would also like to say a word more about the way in which Mr. Cole is being treated in Bitlis. I hope he keeps you informed about the matter. He is not allowed to go outside the city atall. He can not visit his outstations, he was obliged to give up his plan of coming over to Van for a visit, and he was not even allowed to go out six hours from the city to meet his daughter and Miss Fly on their return from Van. So far as I understand, this is treatment in contravention to treaty rights, and it does seem to me that our Government should interpose to have such outrageous restrictions removed. Otherwise it is very probable that the Turks will gather up courage to deport him as they did Mr. Knapp, and then begin to try the same tactics in other stations till they drive out all Americans.

Mr. Cole makes a suggestion which strikes me favorably and which I desire to second, viz. that the E.T.M. be divided, and the three eastern and neighboring stations, Erz. Bitlis and Van be made a separate mission, so that it may be practicable to revive the almost extinct institution of annual meetings, which might be possible then without special appropriations.

With kindest regards from wife and self to all the dear friends at the rooms, I remain

Your's most sincerely

G. C. Raynolds.

G. E. SWETT,
REC'D JUN 24 1901
Ans'd

Van, May 31st. 1901.

Dear Dr. Barton,

Your communication of April 8th. regarding the needs of the wrk in our station, has been neglected on account of my absence from the station, but was considered in station meeting this week, and I was asked to communicate the result of our deliberations to you.

Before attempting to answer the particular questions some general observations seem necessary.

The work in this field is in quite different condition from that in most of the fields of the mission. There has not been developed here an outstation work such as is found in other stations, only one real outstation being found here, at Agants, on the north side of the lake.

One reason for this is found in the fact that the attitude of the Government from the first was not favorable to aggressive work in the villages such as was used in the older fields to begin the work. The officials very early took the ground that we were not permitted to go to any village to preach or open schools unless there were those in the village who desired our coming, and consequently we were shut up to other methods, such as sending out book-sellers, and getting hold of villagers when they came to the city, etc. Considerable light has been disseminated, and the condition of the field is very different from what it was when we came here, but there are not to be found Protestant communities scattered thro the vilayet as in other places.

Since the massacre, the help we have been permitted to distribute and the assistance of different kinds which has come to the people thro our hands have caused the attitude of the people towards us to be very greatly changed, and we seem to have been providentially drawn into a different method of work, and this circumstance must modify the answers we make to the questions asked. Instead of laboring to induce men to embrace the Gospel and at the same time withdraw from the old church, we have been led to labor to induce them to embrace the Gospel and live in accordance with its precepts while remaining within the national church. How long we may be permitted to continue to work in this way is not evident. I am not too sanguine that the present state of feeling will be permanent, and the light be permitted to penetrate the darkness which has hitherto pervaded the old church, But while we are permitted to do this it seems the part of wisdom to continue it. We are educating boys in the orphanage who are prepared to go out and teach in their villages, and to perform directly evangelistic work for their people at large. So far as the schools are concerned I hope their support may be provided for by the people themselves, tho it might be very useful for us to have a small fund available from which we might from time to time render assistance in the way of books for poor children, maps, charts, blackboards, etc.

We now have a class of four most promising young men, graduates of the orphanage, who are taking a two years' course, more especially in Biblical and Theological lines, with the purpose of fitting them for direct evangelistic work. Our thought with regard to them is to locate them in different centres, with the name perhaps of superintendents of the children who have gone out from the orphanage, to labor for their material and spiritual good, and in various ways try to keep them up to the mark. But at the same time the expectation will be that they will do directly evangelistic work throughout the field to which they are assigned. At present the door is wide open for such work and they and others are accorded a warm welcome wherever they go.

Still we can not expect the people to provide for their support, at least at present, and here is a branch of the work which it seems most important to push vigorously. Besides these four, there is another graduate of the orphanage who is now located at Agents, the one outstation we possess, where the people give him half his salary to act as their preacher, while the other half is provided in connection with work which he is doing as teacher in the village school for the Armenians. It would be very desirable for this man also to have his time sufficiently at his disposal to be able to do evangelistic work in that district. We have placed these names in our estimates for 1902 the last one for the whole year, the others for the six months after they will finish their two years' course. At the start we ask a very small salary, but of course there will be need for an increase as the years go on. It would be most desirable to locate such men in from four to six other districts, where equally promising and needy fields would open before them, just as soon as we have suitable men to place there. At present we have a preacher, P. Hachadoor Kooroozian in employ as a general evangelist, under the name, so far as we are concerned, of superintendent of the orphans who have returned to their villages, and with a commission from the Armenian authorities as superintendent of schools, who is doing a splendid work in the way of enlightening the people generally, but without saying anything to them about severing their connection with the old church. Of his work our station report gives considerable information. It seems most important to continue this work either in its present form or with such modifications as developing circumstances may suggest, and the funds hitherto at our disposal do not admit of his support. Unless the Bible Soc. should conclude to assume his support, additional funds to the extent of Lt2.50 per month are essential to secure the continuance of this most valuable work.

Now to answer more succinctly the definite questions asked.

Native Helpers. Funds needed to care for the General Evangelist Lt30.00, unless adopted by the Bible Soc.

Funds for the support of from five to ten local evangelists, at from Lt 12.00 to 20.00 each per year.

It may be hoped that by this means one half at least of the Armenian population of the vilayet, which is estimated at 100 000, might be reached with the Gospel.

Education. The best interests of the central schools here demand the employment of a head teacher of higher grade than present funds permit at a salary of say Lt 36.00 per annum.

A good Kindergarten in the walled city would meet a very pressing need, and enable us to reach a class of people now almost inaccessible, and bring them under Gospel influences, and this would require the employment of two teachers at a total annual expense of say Lt 24.00.

There are many poor children about us who, on account of their inability to pay tuition, are excluded from all existing schools, and doomed to grow up in utter ignorance. It would seem a most desirable undertaking to provide a free school for this class, not to give a high education, but to teach them to read and write and give some idea of accounts, while at the same time giving them a knowledge of the way of salvation. An annual expense of from 10 to 12 lires for a teacher, and two or three for rent of a building would be all that would be essential for accomplishing this.

Buildings. The possession of a church building in the gardens of sufficient capacity to accommodate the audiences which would

gladly assemble would add greatly to the efficiency of our ordinary services. We are now obliged to use our school room, and this has been enlarged to the last possible limit, but is quite too small to meet our needs. Even by providing separate services for most of the orphans we can not secure the room needed to seat those who often press in to the services. There is now a lot which was bought a good many years since with the expectation of erecting a church building upon it, but it was impossible to secire government permit. Conditions have now so changed that it is probable that our own premises might be a more favorable site for a building than this lot. If the lot could be sold for a reasonable sum, it, with the contributions of the community might provide for half the expense, and an addition of two hundred lires might suffice to finish the building.

A Hospital is an immediate and pressing necessity. If say five hundred lires could be provided for the erection of the building, the receipts of the medical department might hopefully suffice for purchasing a site and providing the furnishings.

Missionaries. A lady to take charge of the Kindergarten department and assist in the general educational work is a most crying necessity, and every month of waiting is a great injury to the work, and to the workers by increasing their burdens . We understand that it is the purpose of the Board to send such a worker as soon as she can be found, and we most earnestly urge that the need be supplied before another winter sets in.

The work now in hand and opening before us is much more than two male missionaries can possibly attend to, and much has to be neglected which ought to be done and would prove very fruitful. We therefore urge that another missionary family be sent out. Dr. Ussher finds the field for medical and surgical work so abundant and promising as to lead him and us to feel that a medical associate might perhaps be the best supply that could be sent to the field, not simply for the sake of medical work, but to extend evangelistic work by the agency of medical labors. This associate might assume the care of the treasury and thus relieve the third member of the station of some hindrances which now interfere with profitable evangelistic labor.

We believe it would be exceedingly desirable to establish an industrial plant in connection with the boys; school, that it would be of immense advantage to those instructed directly, and afford a means of exerting a religious influence over many not now reached. Were it possible for an American instructor to take charge of such a department and at the same time superintend the school as a whole, it would add immensely to the value of the school, and would still farther relieve the senior missionary and enable him to push evangelistic work yet more vigorously.

As to expense, the salary of a married man is Lt 150. and of single missionaries Lt 75. per annum, while the cost for an industrial department would be only in the providing of tools, etc. for which I am not able to form an estimate.

Miscellaneous. The addition of an X ray outfit and some other surgical apparatus to the value of from $ 500. to $1000. would very greatly increase the efficiency of the medical department, thro which over a thousand new patients have been treated during the last five months alone.

I believe the above to be a conservative reply to the inquiries contained in your circular letter, and hope it may prove satisfactory and open the way for profitable enlargement of the work.

In behalf of the Station, G. C. Raynolds.

Wan, May 31, 1901

X Answers to Inquiries

Entd

Tuesday

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As to expenses, the salary of a married man is 1 1/2 and of single missionaries 1 1/2 per annum, while the cost for an industrial department would be only in the providing of tools, etc. for which I am not able to form an estimate.

Miscellaneous. The addition of an X ray outfit and some other surgical apparatus to the value of from $ 500. to $1000. would very greatly increase the efficiency of the medical department, there which over a thousand new patients have been treated during the last five months alone.

I believe the above to be a conservative reply to the inquiries contained in your circular letter, and hope it may prove satisfactory and open the way for profitable enlargement of the work.

Yours, [illegible] of the Station, G. C. Stoney [illegible]

Van, June 18th. 1901.

Dear Dr. Smith,

It was a real pleasure yesterday to find a letter from you once more, and it seemed to revive the memories of auld lang syne, of the days when our correspondence was with you, and of the delightful days we spent with you and Mrs. Smith in London and Lucerne. I am very glad that our correspondence during Dr. Parton's absence is to be with you, and that I can feel when writing to the rooms that I am writing to some particular person, rather than be obliged to write in the sort of impersonnal way in which I have done the last two or three times.

There is no very special reason for writing you this morning beyond that of telling you of the pleasure of hearing from you, save to speak of the matter of Mr. Allen's coming to Erzroom. Yesterday's post brought a letter from Dr. Dewey saying that the vote assigning him to Erzroom failed to carry. We here are a good deal surprised at this, unless it means that some votes were for his return to the mission without designating his location, which was the form of our vote, and that so it failed to carry. If this is what it means, we at Van feel like changing our votes so as to make them definite for his going to Erzroom, for we feel as if it were a pity for this opportunity of supplying Erzroom to fail. We think of starting another vote on the subject to send out by today's post so that at any rate it may not be the fault of the form of the vote we gave that shall keep him from returning to the mission. Mrs. Reynolds and I who were associated with him, while not unmindful that he was not perfect, that class of people not having been very numerous among our acquaintances, still feel that he has many excellent qualities, and that the risk of sending him to Erzroom would be much less than that of sending a new man. We can but hope that it may yet be arranged for him to come.

With regard to a kindergartner for Van, we do feel as if it were almost a condition for the continuance of our work to have the other teacher we have been so long asking for, and certainly it does seem very doubtful whether we ought to attempt to carry on the kindergarten without such assistance. We do have a good deal the feeling that the sending of Miss Platt to Harpoot, after she had been definitely appointed for Van was hardly fair. Somebody seems to have indicated that she and Miss McLaren would not get on well together, and so she was sent to Harpoot, instead of allowing her to come here and see if the two would harmonize or not. I understand that Miss Platt has indicated some regret that the change should have been made, and also I have an idea that the kindergarten work is at least as promising and important here as at Harpoot, and relatively to the whole work of the station, far more so, since a kindergarten of first class here would do a great deal to win the patronage of the class we have hitherto been unable to reach, while at Harpoot they have no difficulty in securing patronage. Under these circumstances, would the Committee feel atall like letting Miss Platt come to Van in case the new worker desired can not be found in time to send this fall, or at least of allowing the mission to vote on her location, a privelege which it has not yet had? We do feel most strongly that Van ought not to be left without this reinforcement another winter, and while we recognise that the Harpoot work is one that calls for a large force, and most deeply regretting that so many of the members of that station are suffering from poor health, yet we also feel that the smaller stations are in need, and that they have not the strong force of native laborers which Harpoot has.

Mrs. Raynolds is getting very tired, and it is a great risk for her to continue the burdens she now carries. She joins in warm love to yourself and Mrs. Smith and to our other friends at the rooms and I am

Your's most sincerely

G. C. Raynolds

Rec'd June 18 - 1901
Rec'd July 18

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Van, July 25th. 1901.

Dear Dr. Daniels,

Thanks for your favor of May 24th. which came in due time, and I was very glad to hear from you.

We on the field all appreciate, I presume, the great importance of the Forward movement, especially when we see the income of the Board constantly falling off as it seems to be doing at present, and anything that we can do to sustain and increase the interest of the churches we will certainly do most cheerfully. For several years I have from time to time sent out mimeographed letters to friends, either having reference to the orphanage work or the general work of the station, and these are so closely interwoven that what concerns one also very closely concerns the other. I inclose such a paper just prepared. With the Poughkeepsie Church I keep up a fairly brisk correspondence, as also with the Longmeadow church, where of course I am better known than in many places at home, it being my native place and we having kept house there a part of the time we were at home the last time. I am very glad that they have felt like sending their contributions for this work this year, and hope they may incline to continue the plan. The demand for correspondence relative to the orphanage has been so great that I have not found very much time for other letters, but as the children decrease there, I may get more time for other correspondence.

We shall always be glad of any suggestions as to the manner of making such efforts the most effective. I hope good will come from the Lake George conference, and that the growing deficiency may soon give place to increasing income for new and aggressive work.

Wife, if here, would join in very kind regards, and I remain

Your's most sincerely

G. C. Raynolds.

July 25: 1901

Van, Aug. 12th. 1901.

Dear Dr. Smith,

Oh dear! What ever are we to do? What face can we have to come to you, and how can we get along without coming? Well you will wonder what is up now. The old story, Young lady teacher sent to Van, and before she gets fairly started in the language she must up and get engaged!!! The other two times the engagement was to a member of the station, and she did stay with us, at least for a while, only in another capacity than head of the school. But this time it is to go away entirely, nobody knows just when or where. You see Van has the misfortune to usually have nice young men here as English consuls and this time it Mr. Satow, a nephew of the Ambassador to China, a fine young fellow, good looking and a nice fellow whom we all like. They have found eachother's society agreable, and to day they have come down from the monastery where they have been for a week or two as Miss Wilson's guests, and Mr. Satow comes in for a confession!

Well now my dear Dr. Smith, what are we to do? I presume Miss McLaren will intend to stay with us thro the present year of the school, but even if some one were to come out this fall, they would not be so far along a year hence as she is now. But I think you will all feel that we must have some one at once, or anyway just as soon as she can be found. We have been pleading so hard for a kindergartner supposing that we had the other teacher fixed at last, and now she too flies off the handle. Can't you find some person as good as an angel and either so old that marrying is out of the question, or so deformed or ugly looking that no one will want her, so that we may hope that even Van can hold on to her?

But to speak seriously, would there be any possibility of getting any of our former members to return at least temporarily? I wrote to Miss Huntington not long ago on the subject, and after a little heard a rumor that there was a man in that case too, but I am not sure. My wife suggests "Could Miss Johnson be persuaded to come out again at least for a few years till somebody else can get broken in?" But I think we wrote to her also some time ago about such a possibility and received no encouragement. There is Miss Annie Allen who has the language and knows Van. What is her present state of mind? Could she be persuaded to come and would you think well of it?

In our desperation we wrote to Harpoot about Miss Platt to come here, but receive a definite decision that she is needed there together with two or three more, and I can't deny that they do need help. But it is clear that Mrs. Raynolds can't run this thing alone much longer, and it does seem too bad for her to break down and leave the whole thing on the ground. Miss Wilson the lady who came out from Eng. for orphanage work is recalled, and on the whole we as a station do not greatly regret her leaving, but it will of course increase Mrs. Raynolds' burdens.

So now we send this desperate cry for help, and at the same time we pray to the Lord of the harvest that He will find the laborers for this special harvest field.

Dr. Ussher and family and my wife have been spending three weeks at Bitlis mountain retreat, i.e. the ladies have, the Dr. has been busy with medical and surgical work, and writes that he has taken in £t100. toward starting his hospital, but he will be pretty tired when he gets home as we hope to see them this week.

With love for yourself and Mrs. Smith, the Strongs and Mrs. Means,

Your's most sincerely

G. C. Raynolds.

Van, Aug. 12, 1901

Rec'd Sep. 9.

Van, Sep. 24th. 1901.

My dear Dr. Smith,

Your kind favor of July 26th. has been too long neglected, and I write today more for the sake of acknowledging it than because I have anything very particular to say.

In one sense there is considerable to say, but it does not seem to be quite the time to say it as yet.

You are probably aware that there has been a movement going on here for some time in the line of a measure of cooperation with the Armenians in village work, involving the employment of our graduates as teachers in village schools, and the commision of one of our preachers as superintendent of village schools. Recently an opposition movement has sprung up here in the city, not atall from conscientious motives, but entirely from motives of self interest, which seeks to secure the exclusion of our graduates from all Armenian schools, and the withdrawing of this commission from our preacher. Correspondence has been had with the Patriarch on the subject, and the whole matter is still under discussion, but the preacher is not yet displaced, and one of our boys has secured an appointment, and there is a probability that others may do so, and a conference has been asked for with the ecclesiastic who has the most to do with the matter, and so it seems wise to wait for farther developments before attempting any report of the case.

We are expecting the coming, next month, of a German to help in the orphanage, and at his request, Dr. Ussher plans to start next Monday for Tiflis to meet him, and Miss Wilson, the English lady who has been here for a while, and who is now recalled by her Soc. will go with him, on her way home. He hopes to be absent not much more than two weeks.

Miss Knapp who came over with the Ussher party for rest and medical treatment, is still with us, but I presume will wish to return before very long. Should Mr. Cole succeed in getting out of Bitlis, it is probable he may come over for her, but otherwise it will probably fall to me to escort her back.

We look eagerly every post day for word that some ladies have been found to come to our assistance, but thus far each day brings only disappointment. The report of the financial condition of the Board is certainly not reassuring. The great strikes and general social uneasiness, and now the dreadful news of the assassination of our beloved President, combine to emphasize a pessimistic view of the world's status, but we do know that the Lord reigns and is abundantly able to bring light out of all this darkness.

Mrs. Raynolds unites in very kindest regards to yourself and Mrs. Smith, and I remain

Your's most sincerely

G. C. Raynolds.

Van Sep. 24 1901

Van, Sep. 24. 1901

Rec'd Oct. 28.

Van, Nov. 25th. 1901.

My dear Dr. Smith,

Your favor of Sep. 20th. is still unanswered, and I fear you will think I have been very remiss in writing you of late, and that you have some reason for the feeling. The truth of the matter is that some things regarding our work are in such an uncertain state, that I have not felt very much like writing, till they should take on a more definite shape, one way or the other. Matters have not progressed very much since my last letter writen late in Sep. at least so far as a final decision is concerned. Several more of the boys have found work in the village schools, indeed almost all of the last graduating class, and one member of an earlier class has even been appointed as teacher in the school at Akhtamar, at the island monastery, which is quite in another catagory from the village schools. Neither has the preacher been turned out of his office as assistant superintendent of the village schools, tho a letter has come, I believe, from the Patriarch himself, which rather advised the giving up of that cooperative work. The conference to which we invited the ecclesiastic who is now the locum tenens of the Akhtamar Catholicate, has not yet taken place, he not having come to the city. So there is not yet anything much more definite to report than when I last wrote. The man who is largely at the bottom of the difficulty, a deacon who was banished here for immoral conduct, and who continues the same sort of course, still manages to maintain his influence with the Arachnort. A waiting attitude still seems to be the appropriate one for us, so far as this matter goes, but we try to do our work as faithfully as we can in the school and in all other lines.

Mr. Roesker, the German pastor who has come to attend to the German correspondence, etc. went with me to Bitlis recently, when I went over to escort Miss Knapp, who had been here since she came over with the Usshers and my wife, in August. She by the way is not in good health, having somewhat severe trouble, of a rather obscure character, with the stomach, and I think Dr. Ussher feels that it might be wise for her to take a vacation before long. There are a number of orphans at Bitlis supported from Germany, and the friends who care for them were inclined to give up the work, and it seemed important for Mr. Roesler to see the work with his own eyes and form his own opinion, and I think much good came from the visit. On our return we had a pretty uncomfortable journey from storm and cold, which rather disgusted Mr. Roesler with travel in this country, at least in winter.

I presume Mr. Cole writes you about matters at Moosh, and about his being still hindered from touring the field. We are getting rumors that France has taken a decided stand regarding her difficulties with the Porte and we shall be glad if this lesson leads the Sultan to be more just in his dealings with others. It certainly does seem as if something should be done to relieve Mr. Cole from the restrictions under which he is chafing. Of course Miss Stone's case is the one which takes the first place at present, and we wait with much anxiety the result in that case.

We are very thankful for the lifting of the debt at Hartford, and most earnestly hope that there will follow no reaction which shall cause a new debt, but rather that an interest may have been awakened that shall make future debt impossible.

We are very sorry that the two ladies we so much need are still invisible, and wait impatiently for news that they are found.

Wife joins in hearty greetings for Mrs. Smith and yourself, and I am

Your's most sincerely

G. C. Raynolds.

Feb 24 1902

Van, Dec. 14th. 1901.

My dear Dr. Smith,

Your very kind letter of Oct. 28th. has come to hand, and instead of writing to you at length today, I think I will inclose what I have writen to our kind friends at Longmeadow, Mass. for you to read and forward. I have also writen to Dr. Hopkins of Poughkeepsie today thinking it well for both these friends to have letters from me before this year closed. I hope both may be inclined to continue their contributions for the coming year, perhaps in increased measure.

Mr. Roesler, our new German associate, is getting hold of the language rapidly. He has had some experience in evangelistic work and likes to do what he can in that line, as yet thro my interpretation, but he will soon be able to speak himself, I think. He is now planning to bring his family here this summer, and it is said that there is a Danish lady in Mezeré who is planning to come here in the spring.

Their sending so many workers suggests the thought whether it may be their ultimate purpose to inaugurate a general missionary work outside the orphanage work, but Mr Roesler seems quite confident that his society has no such plan. I have been informed that the Lepsius Soc. has such intentions. Our help comes from the Frankfort Soc. of which Pastor Lohmann is the head, and it represents the evangelical branch while Dr. Lepsius is more liberal, I believe. How desirable it would prove for them thus to establish permanent missionary work, I do not know, but it would seem in accordance with the principle of missionary comity now accepted by most societies, to have a conference with our Board before undertaking it. Probably you are better informed on this subject than I am, and know whether there is any occasion to say anything on this subject to these societies.

We are greatly interested in what we hear from Dr. Barton and his tour, and certainly the news from India and China and Japan and Africa is most encouraging, and we hope and pray that the constituents of the Board will now enable you to push the work on all sides and make it far more efficient than it has ever been before.

I wish it might have happened that the visit of the Ransoms and our own could have coincided, so that we might meet them once more, but it will not be very long before we may hope to meet on the other shore, where we can understand many things that are now dark.

Wife joins in kindest regards to yourself and Mrs. Smith, and to our other friends at the rooms, and I remain

Your's most sincerely

G. C. Raynolds.

Van, Dec. 14th. 1901.

Dear Mr. Bliss,

It is some time since I have writen you, and so tho I have not heard from you, I will again send you a few lines to tell you of what your contributions are doing here in Van. I have several times spoken to our pastor, suggesting that it would be nice if he would write to you too, and he has promised to do so, but his letter does not materialize. I am happy to say however that he is doing good work among the people, both our Protestant community and those outside. He has given a good deal of time to efforts to heal some breaches among the church members, and while I can hardly say that complete success has crowned his labors, yet we are glad to feel that a somewhat better state of feeling now exists. With the lengthening evenings we have resumed our Thursday evening meeting, and a tender spirit seems to pervade it. The people seem likely to fulfill their pledge for half the salary of the pastor, tho it is not quite all paid in as yet, and I am glad to say that this year gives larger receipts from tuition in the schools than we have had since the massacre so rudely interrupted our work. We shall try next year to have the people either assume a larger proportion of the salary, or do something to help in carrying on outside work. The appropriations which the Board has thus far been able to grant us leave but the smallest margin for such outside, aggressive work, and we have only been able to keep our efficient itinerant evangelist in the field thro generous contributions from two sisters in England who became interested in Van thro the orphanage work. Our four theological students will finish their course next July, and be ready to enter on work of some kind outside, and we hope that the Board will find its funds sufficient to enable us to locate them in as many different districts for direct evangelistic work, for which they will be well qualified. It would be a great calamity not to be able to thus locate them, tho it is not yet apparent whether it will be possible and best to have them attempt their work within the old church or outside of it. In this matter we try to keep our wills so far passive as to respond quickly to the leadings of Providence, which never makes mistakes as we poor falible mortals are so prone to do. I am happy to say that, despite some opposition from different sources, the graduates from the orphanage are getting places as teachers in the villages, and I hope that they will be able to do efficient work there. They are being pretty widely scattered in different districts, and thus far I hear good reports of their work.

I think my young Medlicott and Leete friends, and perhaps others also might be interested in a letter which one of my orphan boys has just writen to his patron in Ireland, and I think I will venture to copy the translation which I made for her. He says "My dear Benefactor,

I want now to tell you about the massacre in our village and about my last vacation. While I was in our village (this was in 1896) suddenly the Koords descended upon us. We were afraid and fled to a near Koordish village but they would not receive us, and we then went to a mountain not far away, where the Koords surrounded us, killed one of our company and were planning to kill us all, when at sunrise the next morning, suddenly a huge rock broke away from the mountain above us and rolled down into the midst of the crowd of Koords and killed two of them, and the rest then ran away, leaving us to thank God for this miraculous escape. When we fled from there I could not keep up with the men, and so they hid me in a hole, and placed a stone over me to conceal me from the Koords, and here I staid alone and without food or water for three days. I tried to get out but was so weak from hunger that I could not lift the stone. Thinking over my unfortunate condition, I became discouraged and began to cry, and my uncle who

was concealed not far away, heard my voice and came and lifted the stone and I came out, and we went to the village giving praise to God who had delivered us from so many dangers. After staying in the village for four years, thro your favor and that of Dr. Raynolds I came here, and am thankful to you for sending so much aid.

When this summer vacation began, I got leave from my father, Dr. Raynolds and went to Avants, the lake port of Van, went aboard a boat at night, and at noon the next day reached my village, Nor Keugh. The boys came out to welcome us home. A few days later, with my companions, I went to the fields.

I said to them It is Sunday, why should we wander about to no purpose? We ought to read the Bible, and so we sat down and read in the Holy Book for half an hour and then went on. We saw a man at work in the field and said to him Today is Sunday, it is not right to work. He replied It is Sunday for you, not for me. Do you not believe in the God in whom I believe? I asked. Yes. Why then do you work? Did not God work six days and rest the seventh? He commands us to work six days and work one. He answered God had no more work to do and so rested. I told him You are mistaken, He had work, as you have so much to do to su port one family, how should God have no work when he has to support the universe? The man was persuaded and returned home promising not to work any more on Sunday.

Your adopted son Bedros Hohannessian."

The boy who wrote this letter was selected from other perhaps equally needy boys in his village, because our boys who have taught school there testified that he had been in their school and was so promising that they very much desired that he might have an opportunity to carry on his studies, and be prepared for more efficient work, and I hope it may be possible to keep him here till he can graduate.

The Board meeting was so near you that I hope many of you were able to attend it, and I am sure it must have been a most inspiring occasion, tho we have not received the local papers which probably gave fuller reports of the meetings than those for which we subscribe. I presume our paternal government thought such reports dangerous for us and so quietly slipped them into the censor's waste basket. We rejoice beyond measure in the lifting of the terrible incubus of debt which had so long rested on the Board, and we hope and pray that the churches, to whom the Lord has given such abundant ability, will not again permit such a spectre to alarm us, that retrnchment may no more be heard of, but the bugles sound the call for an advance all along the line.

Please give our very kind regards to your new Pastor, and may the dear Lord make his ministry even more fruitful than that of his predecessor.

Wife joins in heartiest greetings for all our kind friends in Longmeadow, and I remain

Your's most sincerely

G. C. Raynolds.

FEB 3 1902
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Van, Jan. 7th. 1902.

Dear Dr. and Mrs. Barton,

I have just heard that you dear friends were soon expected to reach the home land, and tho it is almost time to put up the post, I will dash off just a line to bid you welcome home, and to tell you how glad we all are that you have been able to make this long journey and return in safety. We hope that Mrs. Barton has been much benefitted by the trip, and we know that you have been able to accomplish much good by your visit, for which we are devoutly thankful.

There is not time today to write of our work, but I must mention a very great surprise which has come to me in the post which is just in, viz. a notification from our Department of State that $ 2 500. was awaiting my order as indemnity for personal injuries received!!! It had never occurred to me that my old claim was included in the sum secured from Turkey. We shall now have the pleasure of deciding for what object to use the same.

We are beginning the week of prayer and are having daily meetings at 6.30P.M. both at the city and at the gardens and last evening's meeting here seemed encouraging, and to give some evidence that the Spirit's presence was there. Six young men accepted an invitation to call on us after the meeting for religious conversation.

It is too late to write at length today and so I must close with best wishes for a blessed new year for yourselves and the children and for our other friends whom you may see, and subscribe myself

Your's most sincerely

G. C. Raynolds.

Rev. Geo. C. Wingfield, D.D.
Van. Jan. 7, 1902

FEB 11 1902
FEB 21 1902

Van, Jan. 10th. 1902.

Dear Dr. Barton,

I wrote just a line last week to tell you that we were glad you and Mrs. Barton were safely home again, and I just mentioned the notification I had received from our Department of State, that $2 500. of the Turkish indemnity was at my order. I would like to say a little more about this matter. This news was entirely unexpected, and I do not know how the Board will regard it, and I have no knowledge of any precedents by which to be guided. The form of the notification is that it is indemnity for personal injuries, and I suppose it was in this form that our Minister made the demand so many years ago. Now the question is, Will the Board consider this as belonging to me or to the Board, and on this question I would ask for light. If it is to be considered as belonging entirely to the Board, then I suppose it will simply be placed in the general treasury, and Van will have no more right to it than anyone else. On the other hand, should it be considered as subject to my direction, I have some farther inquiries to make. Wife and I would not feel like using it in any way for our personal needs, but we would like to use it for objects connected with the work in Van, but outside those objects for which the Board would naturally be expected to make appropriations. There are several such objects, which I will mention in the order of importance as they lie in my mind. First, the procuring of iron water pipes for bringing water onto the premises. We tried the experiment of using baked earthern pipes, taking every precaution which suggested itself to secure success. They were made nearly twice as thick and strong as is

the custom here, and then we had them would with tow and cement, the joints cemented in the most secure way we could contrive, and the pipes glazed to prevent the roots of the trees penetrating them. This last object has not been fully met, and the persistent willow trees which grow along the route have penetrated them in places, so as entirely to close the pipes and compell us to break them up so as to remove the obstruction. But aside from this, the pressure of the water in the lower places is so great as every now and then to burst the pipes from within. One other trouble, every now and then the people purposely punch holes in the pipes for the sake of getting water, and we are unable to ascertain who it is that does it, or to prevent it. All these things convince us that we must substitute iron pipes and the cost of purchase and transportation will be pretty large, possibly in the neighborhood of Lt 100. We have made known our needs to our German friends and have some hope that they will see their way to furnishing this assistance, but have no word from them as yet.

Second the erection and equipment of a hospital. This we feel as one of the pressing needs of the work at the present time. Dr. Ussher has already received permission to use the receipts of his department for this purpose, but there are not so many large fees coming in this year as last, and it is not probable that he will be able to run his present hospital and erect a permanent building both during the time for which he has this privelege. He will probably be able to secure the lot on which to build from his receipts, and he has hope that some of his personal friends will help him in the erection of the building, without affecting the income of the Board. But in case

he should not be able to get what he needs from other sources, I should like to use from this money for the purpose of helping him out.

Third on the list I should place the erection of a windmill and machinery for grinding grain and sawing lumber by its means. Should the other things be otherwise provided for, I think that we might in this way arrange for very greatly diminishing the expenses of the orphanage and other branches of our work, and very possibly even secure some income for running the institution. I should like to have the opinion of an expert in such matters before embarking in this, but I believe the Dr. who is coming to Bitlis has some technical education, and he may be able to give us the advice we need.

Fourth. In case the money was not absolutely needed for the above mentioned objects, I should like to use it gradually for the setting up in life of the dear boys who go out from the orphanage.

I shall wait to hear from you before deciding on anything concerning the use of this money, except that I may think it best to write to Mr. Peet about finding water pipes, so as to have them ready at Treb. at the season when freight is the cheapest, as that will make a very considerable difference in the final bill.

Please give us your views on the whole subject as early as may be.

You may be interested to know how the experiment we have been trying of working, in a way, with the Armenians is succeeding. I have not writen very much about it of late because it was not entirely evident what condition the question would assume. Nersis Episcopos, who was the Arachnort here when the movement began, and who was an enlightened man, with liberal views, and seemed heartily and intelligently

to favor the movement, left pretty soon and returned to Cons'ple. The locum tenens whom he left behind is not a man of decided character, or one who can stand up for any principle he might favor, and he has fallen under the influence of a few bad men who are using him to carry out their selfish purposes. Last summer a paper was circulated and quite a number of signatures obtained, asking the Arachnort not to permit our preacher B. Kooroozian to hold any office from the Armenians, and not to permit boys from our schools to be employed as teachers in their schools. This was presented to the Arachnort and his Com. and was accepted by them and a letter was writen to Arsen Vartabed, the Locum Tenens of the Akhtamar Catholicate, asking him to join them in this action, but he refused rather sharply, and has not yielded to the pressure that has been brought to bear upon him to adopt such a rule. As he contols a larger part of the vilayet than the Arachnort, and the part in which there is the more hopeful work, the action of the Arachnort has not made much difference as yet. The graduates of the last class are well located for work as teachers in influential positions, one of our earlier graduates is teaching at the Akhtamar island monastery, and several not graduates are teaching in different places. Bn. Kooroozian, tho not now holding any commission from the Arachnort, and so having no authority from them to work in the part of the field under their control, still retains his commission from the Vartabed and is able to continue his work in all that part of the field as before. Whether I should find such a reception as last year, with opportunity to speak in the churches, were I to visit that part of the field this year, I do not know, but I have no doubt that I should find a welcome generally and opportunity for more private con-

versations. We are trying to have our graduates be sufficiently familiar with the church ritual and services to be able to satisfy the people when they fo out, but it is rather difficult to get them to take hold of those things very enthusiastically.

The condition of our Van church and community is more encouraging than for a long time. The meetings during this week of prayer are well attended and interesting. We hold daily meetings at 6.30 P.M. both in the city and on our premises, and the attendance is excellent, and there is more freedom in taking part than we have seen before. Last evening the meeting continued an hour and a half before it was possible to close it. A considerable number have accepted the invitation to come to our rooms for religious conversation after the meetings. It is very probable that the meetings will be continued another week at least. It is unfortunate that the Armenian Christmas festivities occur the following week, and may prevent many from coming during that week, but we will see how Providence seems to direct.

Just now Miss McLaren is on the sick list, it seemed like la Grippe at first, but now it is not so evident whether there may not be something more serious. Probably it will be apparent before this letter goes. It proves to be a severe case of typhoid fever with high temperature. The nights have been with this house a care for her as our a sister.

Please give our very kind regards to Dr. Smith. It has been very pleasant to renew correspondence with him during your absence.

We shall be interested in the reports of your trip to India, and hope that Mrs. Barton has derived great physical good from the journey.

Wife joins in love to you both and the children and other friends and I remain Your's most sincerely

G. C. Raynolds.

Van, Paul. 10, 1902

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Rev. Geo. C. Raynolds, M. D.

40.

A LETTER FROM VAN, TURKEY.

Van, Jan. 28, 1902.

Dear Friends:

I deem it appropriate to tell you a little of what is occupying our thoughts and time in these days, and would beg you to allow me to do so by means of a circular letter, since I have not time to write individual letters to all to whom I wish to write. I had hoped that Mrs. Ussher or Miss McLaren would prepare a letter at this time, but Miss McLaren's sickness has made this impossible, and so the duty again falls to me.

Saturday, January 4th, Miss McLaren began to complain of not being well, but kept about till the following Wednesday, but it was not till Friday or Saturday of that week that it became quite clear it was a case of typho-malarial fever. Doctor and Mrs. Ussher took her to their home and have cared for her as for a sister. The fever ran unusually high, and the symptoms were very severe from the first, and two or three times her condition has been such as to cause us a good deal of anxiety, but thanks to the Divine blessing on the unremittent care and skillful treatment, she seems now to be beyond the period of special danger, but is still so weak as to be almost absolutely helpless. Her associates and pupils and the community at large have shared in our anxiety, and much earnest prayer has gone up for her recovery, and we are all thankful to feel that it has been so far answered, and we hope she may be able ere long to resume her place in the school, the general work and the social circle, where she has so greatly endeared herself to all.

The holiday period is greatly prolonged in Van, owing to the diverse customs of the different nationalities and churches here represented. On our Christmas eve. the missionary circle was to gather for dinner and the exchange of a few simple presents, and some of us were much surprised to find that a box which had come from Norwich, Ct., with presents for the orphan children had also contained kind remembrances for us as well, and these were most highly appreciated and increased the feeling of gratitude which filled our hearts. For several years Christmas day has been used by our Armenian friends as a day upon which to call and express their good will; and, during the day we received very nearly two hundred calls from all classes of people and were not averse to rest when the evening came. We also made a few calls on the Catholics who observe Christmas on the same day as we. Tuesday, January 7th, was the Russian Christmas, and we gave our congratulations at the Russian Consulate, where we were invited to a tree festival in the evening. Saturday, January 11th, was the Turkish Bairam, and we spent a considerable part of the day in calling on officials and other Turkish friends. Tuesday, January 14th, being New Years day according to the O. S. calendar, calls were made on a few of those who expected that day to be remembered, and we

Rev. Geo. C. Raynolds, M. D.

were invited to the Russian Dragoman's for a tree festival. Sunday, January 19th, (Jan. 6th, O. S.) is the Armenian Christmas, and the non-protestant Armenians generally spent that day as well as the two following in calling, but we of course waited till Monday before beginning calls. Christmas and Easter are almost the only days in the year when it is practicable to call on the people generally, and we are glad to use them to cultivate a friendly relation with the people. Miss McLaren's condition was such that Dr. Ussher did not feel able to leave her, but during the two days I made about one hundred and twenty-five calls, being able in some places to introduce profitable conversation.

Owing to the fact that the evenings were occupied with religious meetings, we had the Children's Christmas tree festival on Saturday afternoon, January 18th. Both Miss McLaren's sickness and the state of religious feeling seemed to make a quiet celebration suitable, and so we had the inmates of the orphanage, who now number about four hundred and twenty-five, gathered in the large school hall where a number of the boys gave suitable recitations, while several of the older ones read essays appropriately expressing the feelings of the children generally, especially emphasizing their deep gratitude to their patrons in other lands who have so faithfully and persistently sent their contributions for their support, and to their teachers who care for their daily needs. Several of the teachers made short addresses and a letter was read from Miss Wilson who was with them the two previous years, and to whom they had become much attached. These exercises were interspersed with music and songs, and then the girls went to their own quarters to receive their gifts, while the boys remained for theirs in the schoolroom. Each boy received a picture or card, a new cap, such as they are accustomed to wear, and a new handkerchief filled with nuts and fruit and candy. Quite a number of the German patrons had sent presents of money for their protegés, but it seemed wiser to Mr. Poesier, as it had done before to us, to have this money kept for the children, to serve as a sort of small capital for them when they leave this orphanage, and so they were now only informed of what they had received.

On account of Miss McLaren's not being able to be with them, the distribution of the presents sent from America for the girls was postponed till she should be able to superintend the distribution herself. I think the children were, on the whole, as well content and happy with this quiet celebration as they have been with the somewhat more boisterous ones which we have sometimes allowed them in the past. In common with the day pupils in the schools, they had enjoyed a magic lantern exhibition the previous Monday, though I am sorry to say we have no new slides with which to entertain them. Friends could hardly send us a more acceptable present than a few slides, especially those suitable for illustrating moral truth.

On Wednesday, January 22nd, the boys who have gone out from the orphanage, but who are living in the city or so near as to be able to come were invited to come in and spend the day in their former home. Fifty-four were able to be present, and we spent a most delightful day together. There were the four young men who are now nearly completing their two years' theological course, and who

will be able next summer to go out as evangelistic laborers among their people, there were two of the class who graduated last summer, who are doing good work as teachers in village schools, there were several who are doing satisfactory work as attendants at the hospital, as cooks in our families, and as cooks and bakers for the orphanage. Most of the rest are working at their trades in the city, while a few are farmers in near villages. Most of them are leading satisfactory lives, while some of them are taking an admirable stand as followers of their Divine Master, and but very few have decidedly failed to meet our expectations, and for them we have good reason to hope that the influence of the day will do much to bring them back to a better course. The boys began to assemble about 10 A. M. and the time till noon was spent in informal social intercourse, with a cup of tea to help it on, and at noon we all sat down to table together, and after dinner we returned to the upper room where first was a distribution of presents. It had seemed best to give them a small present of money, and I planned to give each five piasters, but as many of them had expressed a strong desire to have copies of the pocket hymn book which we use in our services, I concluded to give them their choice between a hymn book and the money, and I was rather surprised to find that more than half preferred the hymn book, and in several other cases the money was taken only because they already had a book. These books will do a good deal to attract them to the meetings and to cultivate their better natures. After this a couple of hours were spent in listening to advice and loving counsels from the teachers and the pastor of the church who were present, and then the good-byes were said and a very pleasant gathering was brought to a close. The dear boys! How we want to shield them from the dangers and temptations which beset them during these trying years of their lives.

It is with great thankfulness that I am able to report that during the last few weeks a quite unusual religious interest has prevailed both in the orphanage and among the people at large. In the autumn when the evenings had sufficiently lengthened, the Thursday evening meetings which were held last winter at Dr. Ussher's house were resumed, the meetings of the first few weeks being reserved especially for the church members and those who are converted, but before the close of the year, the condition of the church members had sensibly improved, and it was thought best to make the invitation more general, and Dr. Ussher's room being too small, the place was changed to one of the school rooms and several full and interesting gatherings were held there. The attendance at these evening meetings was so good that it was determined to try the experiment of having the exercises of the week of prayer in the evening instead of the morning, and during that week the meetings were fully attended, many coming in who were little if at all accustomed to attend these services, and the presence of the Spirit was very manifest. Invitation was given for any who might wish, to come to our rooms for religious conversation, and a good many improved the permission. When the end of the week arrived the wishes of the people were asked as to continuing them another week, and a very general desire for their continuance was expressed, and so for a second week meetings were held every evening with constantly increas-

ing numbers and interest. On Friday evening again the question of continuance was asked, as Saturday evening would be Christmas eve, and the following Monday and Tuesday would be days for general calling it was thought possibly people would not come, but the vote was again strongly for continuance. In making calls on Monday we tried to circulate news of the meetings, and the attendance has been much larger this third week than before, so that we were obliged to exclude most of the children to make room for the adults who wished to come. During the last few evenings the rowdy element made itself apparent to some extent, but there was a large attendance of a better class also. Sometimes there could not have been less than four hundred from outside the premises present. There has been no special excitement, but that many are impressed and that some have accepted Jesus as their Saviour there seems to be no doubt. The older boys in the orphanage have been especially impressed, and have often had little prayer meetings of their own after the general meetings, in which a good deal of feeling has been manifested. That the Spirit is present with us there can be no doubt, and it is our prayer and effort to make the most of His presence for bringing precious souls into His kingdom. It is appropriate to add that the Van church held its annual business meeting on Monday, January 27th, and that an unusually good spirit prevailed, while for the first time in the history of the church, the subscriptions for the closing year were so fully paid up that all bills were settled before the meeting assembled. It is evident that the labors of the pastor have done much to bring the church into a better condition, and to interest outsiders in the truth. The work of our evangelist among the villages also continues to be encouraging. One of our older pupils who has just returned from a short vacation trip to his village reports a considerable interest in religious matters there, and a strong desire to hear the truth, and I fully believe that a strong desire for something better in religious lines than they now possess is very common among the people of this province. Would that we had the workers to send out into the field to labor for souls.

Since the annual report of the orphanage was sent off we learn that our German friends have made a change in their arrangement of forces, and the Rev. Mr. Roesler, who has been with us for three months, and whom we had hoped to retain with us, has been transferred to the Bebek orphanage, and Miss Patrunky, now at Bebek, is to come here. Her presence will be an invaluable assistance to Mrs. Raynolds in the care of the girls, but we shall be sorry to lose Mr. Roesler, who has given us efficient aid not only in the orphanage work itself, but in the evangelistic work as well, he having already had considerable experience in that sort of work in Berlin. But we wish him all success in his new field, and pray that the change may be in all respects for the glory of God and the benefit of the work as a whole.

Asking that you will remember us and our work in your prayers, I remain

Yours most sincerely,

G. C. RAYNOLDS.

MAR 7 1902 41

Van, Jan. 29th. 1902.

Dear Dr. Barton,

We have been accustomed to send out a circular letter about this season, more especially in the interest of the orphanage, but supposing that you desire occasional letters about the work in general to be used among the patrons of the Board, I have this year made the letter somewhat more general in character, and it has occurred to me that it might be better economy to send you one copy and let you have it mimeographed there rather than to attempt to send all from here, for the bill for postage would be very large, and it might be that you would wish to send to some of whom I might not know. So I send you this copy, and will send a list of some of my personal friends to whom I would like copies sent. Perhaps my associates may do the same.

Miss McLaren's sickness has been long and tedious, and she has not yet reached the place where she can help herself to any extent. I was with her last night, and she slept most of the time and was comfortable, and this morning she talks about being hungry. The care of her has been a very severe tax on Dr. and Mrs. Ussher, and they have fulfilled the duty most faithfully.

Last post brought word to Mr. Roesler that he was appointed for Bebek, and that Miss Patrunky, now there, would come here, and also this lady wrote saying she expected to leave Cons'ple. Jan. 18th. Evidently neither she nor Pastor Lohmann has much idea about winter travelling in these parts. We sent a tel to Treb. that she wait our letters there, if she had arrived, and wrote for her to come via Russia if she came atall, but that we should consider it wiser for her to wait till the winter was past before attempting the journey. It is possible that friends in Cons'ple would dissuade her from coming now. A new post is expected very soon and it may bring more information of her movements.

We were very glad to get by last week's post your very kind letter of Dec. 27th. and to know from yourself that you were safely home, and we are very thankful that Mrs. Barton has received so much benefit from the long journey, and earnestly pray that she may entirely recover her health.

As to Miss Cantlow's letter, you will see that we hope to have at least one German lady here to help in the orphanage, and Miss Patrunky is very highly spoken of, and we have strong hope that she will prove a greater success than did Miss Wilson. The latter was a fellow traveller with Dr. Gat Gates, and he seems to have sized her up pretty correctly. We can not say that we greatly regretted her leaving. It was conducive to quietness among the natives. How her tongue may effect our interests in England we can not tell.

A small post is in, and brings word that Miss Patrunky actually left Cons'ple. at the time planned, but she had not reached Treb. when the post left, so our wire will pretty certainly be in season to prevent her attempting to come via Erz. It is not a pleasant winter trip from here to the Russian border, but if Mr. Roesler gets thro it may be possible for the same party to get back. A kavass of the Russian consulate is promised to go with him, and we hope they can get thro.

Wife joins in love to yourself and family and the other friends and I remain

Your's most sincerely

P.S. Miss Wheeler will probably write to you for some copies of this circular to send to patrons of the orphans outside o

tried to circulate the news of the meetings, and the attendance was much this third week than before, so that we were obliged to exclude most of the children to make room for the adults who wished to come. During the last few evenings the rowdy element made itself apparent to some extent, but there was a large attendance of a better class also. Sometimes there could not have been less than 40% from outside the premises present. There has been no special excitement, but that many are impressed and that some have accepted Jesus as their saviour there seems to be no doubt. The older boys in the orphanage have been especially impressed, and have often had little prayer-meetings of their own after the general meetings, in which a good deal of feeling has been manifested. That the Spirit is present with us there can be no doubt, and it is our prayer and effort to make the most of His presence for bringing precious souls into His kingdom. It is appropriate to add that the church held its annual business meeting on Monday Jan. 27th, and that a thoroughly good spirit prevailed, while for the first time in the history of the church, the subscriptions for the closing year were so fully paid up that all bills were settled before the meeting assembled. It is evident that the labors of the pastor have done much to bring the church into a better condition and to interest outsiders in the truth. The work of our evangelist among the villages also continues to be encouraging. One of our older pupils who has just returned from a short vacation trip to his village reports a considerable interest in religious matters there, and a strong desire to hear the truth, and I fully believe that a strong desire for something better in religious lines than they now possess is very common among the people of this province. Would that we had the workers to send out into the field to labor for souls.

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Asking that you will remember us and our work in your prayers, I remain

Yours most sincerely

(Signed) F. G. Raynolds.

MAR 31 1902

Van, March 1st. 1902.

Dear Dr. Barton,

You will be glad to know that our long time invalid, Miss Mc Laren is now really improving fairly rapidly, is able to go about the house a little, and yesterday my wife actually drove her out a little way in our cart. We are all most thankful that she is thus improvig.

I think I have mentioned that our meetings during the week of prayer were well attended and were continued subsequently. For two weeks more we had meetings every evening, and then began, with the opening of the schools, to hold them two evenings in the week. The room was constantly crowded, and there were ~~a good~~ many who evidently came because they were interested, but after the first ten days a rowdy element began to make itself evident, and this class made a good deal of disturbance in the streets after the meetings were closed, so that we began to fear that the Government might make objection to holding the meetings in the evening, ~~and~~ it was thought wiser, to resume the usual custom of having them in the early morning, tho the attendance is thus ~~very~~ greatly diminished, not merely the undesirable, rowdy element staying away, but ~~also a good~~ many of those who were hopeful as well. That quite a number give evidence of having yielded themselves to the claims of the Master we are able to say, and others came to know about our meetings who did not before have much idea of them, but just how great will be the final fruitage of the interest we can not yet say. We hope however that the interest has not ceased, and when carnival is passed and people settle down into the quiet of lent, we expect that a larger attendance will be seen at the meetings.

The question of mission meetings and mission arrangements generally is under discussion at present. As you know, it is several years since a mission meeting has been held, and it has become very difficult to secure such meetings. The proportion between the work and the workers at all the stations is such that it is exceedingly difficult, if not impracticable for delegates to be absent from their stations for the six to eight weeks that would be required for the more distant stations tovisit eachother. Besides this, the fact that appropriations for such meetings are no longer granted makes it almost impossible to hold them. None of us feel that we can take the sum needed from our general appropriations, nor do we feel able to provide the funds from our private funds. The three eastern stations have felt for some time that it was wiser, on the whole, for the mission to be divided. These three stations are so near eachother that it might be possible to be absent the time needed for holding a meeting, while so much of the journey might be made to coincide with touring outstations, as to enable the delegates to care for the rest from their own pockets, at least if they could feel that it was right to use a part of their tithes for such a purpose. The same might probably be said of Harpoot and Mardin. Accordingly two distinct efforts have been made to secure a mission vote submitting the question to the Prudential Committee. The first vote started never reached the sec. I think, tho signed by these three stations and sent to Harpoot. More recently another vote was started, but the report regarding this is that it fails to carry. I believe there were but two votes in the negative, one of them Mr. Carey's, who had been in the field less than six months, but owing to the fact that some members failed to

vote, and our Sec. counts all such as voting nay, it failed to carry. We are today starting a vote to the effect that hereafter only recorded votes be counted in such cases, and the necessary majority of such recorded votes shall decide the question. It has become practicably impossible to secure an affirmative decision on any question, and this seems a means of helping on this matter. But as to the question of division, it seems as if the Prud. Com. might take the matter under consideration, certainly if they feel that mission meetings are desirable. It is the turn of Van to have a meeting when held, but Harpoot has now sent out a motion for one to be held next June at Harpoot, on the ground that that station can not spare a member to go elsewhere. Erz. feels that with the building it has on hand this year, it can not send a delegate anywhere this year, and Bitlis has intimated that it could not send a delegate to Harpoot, tho it might possibly do so to Erz. if a meeting there could be made to coincide with the going out of Miss Knapp, whose health seems absolutely to demand a visit home, and Mamie Cole, who also needs to go to America. As to Van, it might perhaps be possible for her to spare a man to attend a meeting, but we do not see how to provide for the expense, unless it should become necessary to go on to Harpoot to bring Miss Hammer, a German lady now there, who had been appointed to Van. Now that the German Com. has changed its arrangements, sending Mr. Roesler to Bebeck, and Miss Patrunky here, we do not atall know that Miss Hammer will be sent here. If one or two new ladies could be at Erz. at the time of such a meeting, it would make it easy for us to be represented there also, tho the Russian route is much easier for those coming than the one by Erz. That the present method of attempting to carry on this work, as if by mission action, is most unsatisfactory there can be no doubt, and some solution of the difficulty should, it seems to me, be sought.

We are very sorry to see that the hopeful increase in contributions does not continue, and we are wondering what possible provision can be made for the support of our four most hopeful theological students when they complete their two years' course next summer. We had hoped the Board might be in a condition to provide for them. Our Protestant community has fulfilled its pledges for last year, and has paid half the salary of the preacher and the taxes and running expenses of the city chapel, but we have only been able to keep our outside evangelist in the field thro the generous aid afforded us by the Misses Mayo, two sisters in Eng. who have become interested in our orphan work, and have now extended their interest to this evengelistic work as well.

I hope you will have received my orphanage reports and also a circular letter I sent you to be mimeographed and sent out there, since this will save a large bill for postage.

I am hoping soon to hear how the Board regards the disposition of the indemnity awarded to me, and whether we shall be permitted to use it for work here in Van.

Miss Patrunky has not yet arrived here.

With kindest regards from wife and self to yourself and family and our other friends, I remain

Your's most sincerely

G. C. Raynolds.

Van, Mch 1, 1902 — 5

APR 15 1902
MAY 9 1902

Van, March 15th. 1902.

Dear Dr. Barton,

This week's post brought your favor of Feb. 5th. for which many thanks. I am glad to know how you regard the indemnity matter, but wife and I feel that we do not want to use this for ourselves. Of course, should we have a long time to wait after becoming unfitted for work, before passing on to the other land, we might need this money, and possibly some one might then blame us for not keeping it, but we hope there may be no such long waiting time, and prefer to trust the Lord in that matter, and use this for some useful purpose in connection with our work here. We must have iron water pipes, as the experiment of earthern pipes has not proved successful, and we have no answer from our application for the money in Germany, and so it is our plan to order the pipes and if no other funds come for them, to pay for them from this sum. Next would come the hospital, and if Dr. Ussher does not secure what he needs, we would like to help him out in that matter. The idea of a wind-mill has been in my mind for a long time, and if I were fully convinced that it would prove a success, I should put that next on the list of possible uses for the money, i.e. if the other needs were otherwise provided for. Then the question of how to provide for the support of our four theologs, when they are ready for the field next summer, is one which greatly exercises our minds, and it would be nice to have something with which to meet this need. So it is not probable that we shall have any difficulty in finding a way to use the money profitably.

You will be interested to know that Arsen Vartabed has sent a letter to our preacher, B. Kooroozian, closing up the connection he has hitherto had with the Vartabed's work. This seems to have been brot about by different causes. Considerable pressure has doubtless been brot to bear upon him from without, and he is very anxious to maintain his popularity so as to secure advancement to an episcopate and ultimately to the catholicate of Akhtamar. Then B. Kooroozian's pure life is a constant rebuke to him and his associate, Taniel Vartabed, and they would be glad to be free from this restraint. They also feel a jealousy at the popularity B. Kooroozian has as a preacher which is much greater than their's, and at the influence he has thro the schools and their teachers. At the same time there is a more sensible element among the Armenians which regrets this action and desires that previous relations should be continued, and some efforts are being made to induce Arsen Vartabed to change his decision. It is not yet evident what will be the final outcome of the matter. It is not impossible that the Lord sees that a separate work is the more effective, and so is preparing the way for it, and I feel no doubt that the work of the last two or three years has enlightened the people as to our true motives, gained their good will, and given a little idea of the truth which would afford a decided advantage in a distinctively Protestant movement, over what we should have had without this effort.

We were interested a few months ago in an article concerning a movement in some of the India orphanages for self-government among the boys, and after thinking over the question, we decided to try the experiment among our boys. So a month ago we called them together and put the plan before them, and as they took to it, we inaugurated a

system by which each of the six companies into which the boys are divided should elect one of its members to sit in a court, whose office should be to hear complaints, examine cases in public meetings of all the boys, and then in private session determine punishments, etc. One member of this court is to be changed each week, so that one boy can only serve six weeks continuously, but is eligable to reelection after one term has intervened. We have not got along far enough yet to say much about results, but the present appearance is encouraging.

We are glad that Miss McLaren is able to resume a part of her duties in the school, tho she has not yet fully regained her health.

Mr. Roesler, our German associate, left us a month or so ago to enter upon his new duties at Bebek, and we have been anxiously awaiting the return of his caravan bringing Miss Patrunky, who was sent to take his place here. Yesterday we had a tel from her from Khoi saying she was expecting word from Germany. What this may mean we do not know, but fear there is an effort being made to switch her off to the Khoi orphanage.

A vote regarding the granting of insurance money to Erz. in addition to what was granted them for building, is going the rounds, and we have signed it, but we feel that the question of the Erzroom buildings is a rather delicate one. That the cost of building there is necessarily a good deal more than here goes without saying, but when Lt 700. are reported as needed to repair the boys' school alone it does seem pretty large. Our people are talking a little about building a church, and we made estimates the other day as to cost, and found that a building 100 by 70 Ft. with gallaries on three sides, a truss roof, and settees, would only cost Lt 700. (Don't be alarmed, such a building would be twice as large as we would need, even should the talk materialize, but we made such an estimate.) Of course what has been built at Erz. in the past has been built, but if they now use the upper house for a girls' school, and erect two residences on the lower lot, which is the plan which I supposed they had decided on, and which seems to me the wiser, it does seem to me that those two houses might be put up a good deal more economically than the former buildings have been. I have indicated to Mr. Stapleton some of the points in which it seems to me economy might be exercised, such as smaller rooms, lower between joints, less cut stone used, etc. We have signed in the affirmative the vote asking that what is needed be granted from insurance money to supplement the previous grant, and I hope they will exercise care in the work they are planning for this summer.

We are having our first winter weather, in March, with some snow, which I hope may suffice to fill up the springs and send us thro the next season with good crops.

Wife joins in kindest regards to yourself and family and to our other friends at the rooms, and I remain

Your's most sincerely

G. C. Raynolds.

Vran, Neb. Feb 18, 1902

5

MAY 18 1902
JUL 5 1902

Van, April 10th. 1902.

Dear Dr. Barton,

I have writen you a line in behalf of the station regarding the matter of a consular appointment for Bitlis and Van, and would now acknowledge your most kind letter of Feb. 21st. Thanks for your advice regarding the use of the indemnity. Our present thought is that we would prefer not to devote that to any personal end, but we will see what seems to be the leading of Providence. The question of the water pipes proves a larger one than we had expected. I had been led to suppose that iron pipes could be put in for a sum not much more than Lt 100, but more exact information shows that three or four times that sum will be necessary, and I am not persuaded that it is right to put so large a sum into them. We are now figuring on wooden pipes, but I do not know how we shall come out. As to the hospital, Dr. Ussher has secured the site, and a petition has been sent in to the Vali for a permit, which we expected would be forwarded to the Capital, but now Mr. Peet writes that he thinks, since the little affair with France, it is possible to carry on such matters without a firman. This opinion is being presented to the Vali, who is exceedingly friendly, and we wait developments. If there is permission to build, I shall feel like telling Dr. Ussher to go ahead, in the hope that funds will come in later, but using the indemnity for the present, to insure expedition.

With kindest regards, in which wife jpins, for all friends,

Your's most sincerely

G. C. Raynolds.

The Vali thinks it better to send the papers on to Constantinople but is very sanguine of speedy success.

Vaux, Alfonie
10, 1902

MAY 13 1902
JUL 5 - 1902

Van, April 11th. 1902.

Dear Dr. Barton,

There has been some correspondence between Mr. Bergholz and Mr. Cole on the subject of securing the appointment of an American Consul for Bitlis, who should have jurisdiction over the two vilayets of Bitlis and Van. It has been suggested that we of these two stations write to you, stating the needs and asking that you will be so kind as to present a request to the State Department for the appointment of such a Consul. I believe that Mr. Cole has writen you on this subject and I now write on behalf of this station.

The facts are that there is a missionary circle consisting of seven Americans at Bitlis, and one of from five to seven at Van, while the "American Presbyterian Mission" at Oroomiah, Persia has a work also in the mountains of Julamerk and adjacent regions, where it is expected that one missionary shall reside permanently. All these thirteen to fifteen souls are loyal subjects of the United States, and are, from time to time, in need of her protection, and there is a liability of such need occurring unexpectedly at any time. There is real estate and personal property in these two stations, belonging to the A.B.C.F.M. and the different residents, whose value would amount to from $40,000. to $ 50,000.

During the last five or six years the rights of American citizens in the Bitlis vilayet have been frequently and gravely interfered with. Rev. G.P. Knapp was illegally and cruelly deported, without any opportunity being given to communicate with any consular authority, even on the road. Rev. R.M. Cole has been prevented from exercis-

ing his rights to travel about in his field for the superintendence of his village work, and treated practically as a prisoner in his own house, not even being permitted to go out a few miles to meet his daughter, when returning from Van, and this treatment has been continued for months, until the arrival of H.B.M.V.Consul Freeman, thro whose efforts the embargo was at last lifted. Had there been a Consul, either British or American residing at Bitlis, it is not likely that these outrages would have been perpetrated. In Van we have a British Consulate, while such a resident has been only occasional at Bitlis, and it is now understood that the present V.Consul is soon to be removed and no successor sent.

It certainly seems very desirable that a Consul should be appointed for these two vilayets, to have his residence at Bitlis, and in behalf of Van Station I would respectfully request that you and the Prudential Committee would take such steps in the matter as may seem to your suitable, and I remain

Your's most respectfully

Van, April 11, 1902

MAY 26 1902 46
JUL 5 1902

Van, April 25th. 1902.

Dear Dr. Barton,

I am sending another circular letter, with the request that you have it multiplied in some way, and sent to the list of names which I have sent to you. Of course the first object of doing this is to keep in touch with the patrons of the orphans, but as it also includes a page on the general work, it is also in line with the regular work of the Board. The cost of mailing all those letters from here would be more than the cost of preparing them there, and I am willing that the expense incurred should be charged to me. Such letters are in the line of the suggestions made ~~sometime since~~ by the sisters (I have forgotten the name) who wrote on the subject some time ago, but I do not know how you regard that sort of effort, or how successful experiment proves it to be.

We have been busy this week making out an order for a windmill, and have changed our minds about putting in pipes to the spring from which we now have water. The windmill is something I have long had in mind, but I did not quite venture to order, lest I should be unable to set it up successfully and run it, but Dr. Ussher has seen a good deal of windmills, and is sure of success, and we understand that Dr. Underwood is a mechanic, and hope he would come over to help set it up, and as the cost of the mill would not exceed that of the extra pipe, but can do a good deal of other work, we feel like trying it. As no other means have come to hand, I plan to pay for it from my indemnity, but with the hope that it will pay for itself in a few years. The saving of kera in sending wheat to mill is not small, and if we can saw boards also it will earn a good deal.

We had a nice visit last week from Messrs Labaree and Sterrett, on their way for a visit to their Bohtan field, and enjoyed it greatly.

Van Mission 11/19 a

We are very sorry to learn by this week's post of the serious symptoms developing in Dr.Dewey's case, and we feel that it would be wiser for Dr.Shepard to operate there than for him to take a long journey in his present condition.

Miss Knapp's case too does not improve, and we want her to get away as soon as may be. She plans to go via Erz. and Miss Mary Ely is intending to go with her it seems. The idea has been suggested of Van also sending a delegate, and the three eastern stations having a meeting by themselves. Dr.Dewey suggests the mission adopting the action of such a meeting, so far as it concerns those stations, as mission action, but it is doubtful if any vote will authorize this, or if it does, ~~or if it does~~, that it will be in time to allow of Van delegate getting to Erz. before Mr.Cole would leave. Harpoot, in part or in whole, opposes a division of the mission, and with half the voters there the rest of the mission is helpless. I do not know how you at Bostn view that question. If approval of the meeting came in time, I should think favorably of going on, were I sure it would not be necessary to go to Harpoot for Miss Hammer, but of that we know nothing. Miss Patrunky does not yet put in an appearance.

Wife joins in kindest regards for yourself and family and our other friends, and I remain

Your's most sincerely

G. C. Raynolds

Evans, Apr. 25, 1902

JUN 18 1902

JUL 5 1902

Van, May 13th. 1902.

Dear Dr. Barton,

Your favor of April 4th. came a week or two ago, and with regard to the subject of mission meetings, I hardly know what to say. As you may know, I have always been an enthusiastic advocate of annual meetings, and am as strong as ever in my appreciation of their benefits. But it is certainly true that the circumstances of our mission for the last few years have not been favorable to holding them. In the first place the time of all the workers is so full that it does seem just about impossible for any one to get away to attend a meeting, when the distances are so great. For us, for instance, to run over to Bitlis, or for Bitlis and Erzroom, or Harpoot and Mardin to exchange visits would not be difficult, but to go to the more distant stations requires an absence of from five to six weeks at the best, and what is to become of the work in the mean time is the question. Then with the very meager appropriations made for the general work, to provide for the expense of a meeting is by no means easy. To take the money from the general work seems simply impossible, and to provide for the expense from our own salaries is certainly not easy. Then the state of the country makes travel much less safe than it was in former years. As between the three eastern stations, I think it would be practicable to hold at least biennial meetings, and possibly annual ones. Of course, the advice and assistance of the larger western stations is most desirable, but I hardly see how it can be secured. The attempt to run the mission by intersessional votes is most unsatisfactory, especially when the non-voting members are counted as voting in the negative. It is barely possible to get the approval of the mission for furloughs of members, and almost every other vote fails of

carrying. Dr.Dewey proposed that the mission authorize the three eastern stations to meet this year,the mission accepting their action as mission action so far as it appertains to those stations,and as Mr. Cole must go to Erz.with Miss Knapp,it was suggested that Van also send a representative,and hold the meeting there,and possibly thus help Mr.Stapleton in his building plans. The estimates he gave for repairs certainly seemed enormous,as I wrote to him after seeing them. But Mr.Cole may now be about starting back,and no indication of the mission's approving of such a vote appears.

The post is just now in,and brings a note from Mr.Wiggin saying that the indemnity has come to his hand,and I will write to him about it. I would like to have it where it might draw interest while not needed,and at the same time be available whenever I feel that it must be used. The windmill outfit I expect to pay for from this fund unless some other means should appear,since there are no others in sight at the present time.

I inclose a letter for Mrs.A.C.Thompson,which I will ask you to be so kind as to forward,and you are at liberty to read it before sending if you feel inclined.

Miss Patrunky is now with us,and promises to fit in nicely into our work,and we are most thankful for her presence and assistance. We anticipate very different relations from those which Miss Wilson held with the station and the people.

I have been much interested in reading the report of the India Deputation,and there is certainly very much to encourage there.

With kindest regards from us both to yourself and family and the other friends at the rooms,I remain

Your's most sincerely

G. C. Raynolds.

Young, Mary
V
"13/1902

JUL 21 1902
SEP 9 1902

Van, June 21st, 1902.

Dear Dr. Barton,

I want to send a letter to Mrs. Dewey, and prefer to send thro you, both because I do not know where she may be, and because I would like you to read it before sending, and I will take time for just a line in acknowledgement of your kind letter of May 9th. Dr. Dewey's death emphasizes yet more the plea you speak of putting in for reinforcements for the F. M. Mission, and I do hope the Com. will see its way to send some at least of those who are needed, and that the kindergarten teacher we have been waiting for so long may be speedily forth-coming.

We are hard at work at our building now, and our premises present a lively scene. The walls of the orphanage building are already beginning to rise, and the foundations of the dispensary and of the hospital are well under way. It is a pretty big job to erect so many buildings in one summer, and we were not able to begin quite as early as we expected, on account of difficulty in securing our titles for property, but the weather was not propitious for cutting brick until rather late, and it is a big job getting the stone that is needed for the foundations. We have brought this with our own teams and saved a good big sum in doing so, but material and work are a little more expensive than last year. Still I think we shall be able to get the work done at a pretty reasonable price, despite these difficulties, and it looks now as if the Government would not place any hinderance in the way of the building. The hospital building once up, Mr. Peet tells us he thinks there will be no difficulty in securing the safety of the institution.

Our kindergarten is having its exhibition today, with a big crowd to witness it, and next week the regular examinations will begin, with the graduation exercises on the glorious Fourth. After that will remain only the graduation of the theological class, which is to take place the following

Monday, after which vacation will have fairly begun. I fear however that some of us at least will not be able to secure any very complete rest, with all the work there is going on. There is considerable activity just now in church matters, which adds considerable to our work at present. We determined to make an honest effort to improve the condition of the church, and began by sending out a circular letter, asking the receiients to tell us what they considered the hinderances to the progress of the Lord's work, and tosuggest remedies for these difficulties. The opportunity was improved to pour out all their new and old complaints and greivances both against the missionaries and against one another, but this may possibly do good, and we are now considering the question of how to deal with the letters. This is adding a good deal to our work just when things are already crowding about as hard as we can carry them.

Under these circumstances I trust you will excuse me if I do not write a long letter today, and I will close with kindest regards from us both to Mrs. Barton and yourself and to all our friends at the rooms, and subscribe myself

Your's most sincerely

G. C. Raymolds.

Van, June 21, 1902

Rec'd July 21

49

Van, July ~~1st, 1902.~~

SEP 9 1902

Dear Dr. Barton,

No time for a letter today, but we have learned by yesterday's post that Mr. McDowell, of the Persian Pres, Mission, is intending to come to Van this fall, with his family, to make this a centre, at least temporarily for their work in the mountains. Now this would be such an excellent opportunity for a lady teacher to come to us, that I feel like writing at once and urging that every possible effort be made to find the Kindergartner, we have been so long asking for, to come with them. The saving in expense will not be slight, to say nothing of the difficulty we should find in going out to meet a lady at a time when no one was coming directly to Van. I do most earnestly hope that it will be possible to avail yourselves of this remarkable opportunity to send the person we want.

Absolutely no more time today, so Good bye.

Your's in extreme haste but most truly

G. C. Raynolds.

Kindergartners are hard to find.
Education so often incomplete.
I do not know of one

Rev. Geo. C. Reynolds
Urana, July 1, 1902

Circular Letter for the Patrons of the Van Orphanage. July 22nd.'02.

It is simply impossible for me to write individual letters to our kind friends, as often as I would like, or as they desire, and so I must beg their indulgence, and that they will sometimes accept of a circular letter in place of individual ones. The close of the school year affords a suitable occasion for sending out a circular, inasmuch as it marks a definite stage in the history of the school and of its members, a point where it behooves both teachers and pupils to carefully consider their work, to see what there has been in the past worthy of approval, and so of being continued in the future, and what there is which needs correction.

On July 4th, our High School held its graduating exercises, which were of a somewhat unusually interesting character, especially from the fact that there was this year a post-graduate class, which had completed a two years' course, especially in studies connected with the Bible, for the purpose of fitting themselves for efficient work in evangelistic lines.

In the early morning two classes from the school were examined, and the rest of the time till noon was occupied with the graduating exercises of this class. Each of the four members read an essay having reference to some part of their two years' curriculum, and these essays were exceedingly creditable to the young men and interesting to the large audience which gave good attention to them. These four young men are all from the orphanage, members of the class which graduated from the high school in 1899, and after doing efficient work as teachers for a year, they were called in for this special course, because we saw the need for evangelistic work to be so great throughout the whole province. They have acqhitted themselves well during their course, and now give promise of doing efficient work in their new sphere. The Principal of the chief Armenian school in the city, who, with three other Armenian teachers, has been so kind as to assist in their instruction, was present and made a short address, as did also Dr. Ussher, who has had a prominent part in teaching them, and the two hours' service left a most favorable impression on all present.

After an hour's intermission the exercises of the class which graduated this year from the high school began. Of its sixteen members ten are from the orphanage and six are day pupils, and it is interesting to know that the highest honor was taken by a member of the orphanage. As the essays of so large a class would take considerable time, the exercises were interrupted by a short recess, to coincide with the coming of the Vali and other officials, invited for that hour in order that they might not be too much wearied by exercises in a language they would not understand. After the recess there were essays in Turkish and English, both of them from orphans, then the head teacher made an address to the class, the diplomas were distributed, the Vali being so kind as to deliver them with his own hand, the Vali's Assistant said a few kind words in his behalf, the missionary superintendent made a short address, and the Arachnort of the Armenians closed the exercises with the benediction. Then a reception was held in an adjoining room for the officials and other prominent guests, who expressed themselves as pleased with the evidence they saw of faithful work. When they were gone the annual reception for graduates of the Boys' and the Girls' Schools was held, and so it was after sundown before we could feel that the day's work was done, and it was a tired company which then sat down to dinner in the missionary houses. The examinations of the schools and orphanage had continued daily during the previous two weeks, and now, for the orphans, the question of their summer vacation came to the front. We are glad to have those who can go to their friends, both that they may keep in touch with their own people, and that their absence may afford us a little more of vacation. So they were soon scattering in various directions. A kind priest from the village of Nor Keugh, district of Kawash, came to attend the examinations, and offered to take charge of the contingent that was going in his direction, and so about twenty-five boys and

girls were marshalled together and went with him to the lake port of Avant, seven miles away, and took boat for their home, and it was a decided relief to feel that so many were in safe hands. A still larger number took boat to go to Agants on the north side of the lake, while many smaller companies were formed to go in other directions, sometimes composed simply of our own boys, with some of the larger ones to care for them, more frequently under the charge of some of their friends, each boy with a bag of bread slung over his shoulder, for use on the road. If I were to travel about the vilayet now, I should find in almost every village, some of "My Blue Birds" as I call my boys in their blue summer suits.

Besides the members of the graduating class, there will be quite a number of other boys who will not return next year, mostly those who have reached the age where they must begin to care for themselves, and in a few instances those whom we might have deemed it proper to retain a little longer, had they shown a better appreciation of the advantages they are enjoying, since we do not feel that it is right to use this money for those who are not willing to make the most of its benefits.

We continue to see evidence that some of those who have gone out, and who at first were inclined to break away from the restraints by which they had been surrounded here, are coming to realize that these restraints were for their good , and voluntarily to accept them again.

The building which our German Friends have ordered for the accommodation of the girls they are supporting is making good progress, the walls having already reached the top of the first storey, where they are waiting for another crop of the mud bricks, (adobe) to dry in the sun, the workmen in the mean time transferring their attention to the hospital building, which is rising on the other side of the premises.

Miss Patrunky is now kindly caring for all the girls who have no friends to whom they can go, at the monastery of S. Krekore, while the boys who are similarly situated are staying at the village where we are keeping our sheep, except a very few who are staying on the premises to keep the shops running. Miss Patrunky has writen a letter to our good German patrons, from which I venture to copy a few lines to show how a new comer is impressed by the orphan work. After speaking of the two days of examination, she adds "The last day when sixteen boys graduated from the high school and four more went forth ready to do missionary work in the villages, was the bright climax of all the days. Many guests were present, as well as the Vali, who showed the greatest interest in everything. The room was festively ornamented with flags, flowers and green. In the centre, over the desk was placed a very good picture of the Vali which one of the orphan boys had made in crayon, and over this the Sultan's monogram in gold. Other countries were also honored. The portrait of the German Emperor was hanging beside that of the Vali, and the picture of the King of England and other celebrated men were hanging there, the work of the boys, but looking like photographs. The essays were entirely satisfactory, between them were songs, some of them in Turkish for the Sultan. At last the Vali delivered to the graduates their diplomas with his own hand, and the farewell addresses of Drs. Raynolds and Ussher were as warm and hearty as the words of thanks of the boys who now leave us to become, we trust, useful men and faithful Christians. I well understand how, every time that the children go out, a piece of the warm heart of their loving, foster father goes with them, since he loves his "Blue-birds" as his own children. How many have passed thro his hands and are becoming useful men, and still cling to him with love and thankfulness. Really, it is a precious task to educate these children for Jesus and His service."

With hearty thanks to all our kind patrons for all their persevering goodness, I remain

Most sincerely Their's

(Signed) G.C. Raynolds.

Circular letter for Patrons. Vol. Supply. Year ending July 1st, 1903

AUG 25 1902
SEP 9 1902

Van, July 25th. 1902.

Dear Dr. Barton,

I am sending you another circular for orphanage patrons, and one giving an account of a phase of the mission work. I do not know just how you regard the circulation of such documents. The orphanage patrons demand something pretty frequently, and it is simply impossible for me to send individual letters so often, and I feel it important for these circulars to be sent, and it is certainly much cheaper to send them from Boston than from Van, and if you feel that the advantage to the mission work does not warrant the expense, you are at liberty to charge to me and I will pay for it from the orphanage funds. This other circular about the cooperative work is in missionary lines, and I leave it for you to use as you may deem best.

We have just had a week's visit from Mr. Cole and Dr. Underwood, which we have much enjoyed. We were sorry they could not have come in term time so as to see the schools, etc. in operation, but we now had more time to talk over matters connected with the work. They feel, and I agree with them, that another man is needed in Bitlis for the general missionary work, and I can but hope that one may be forth-coming. The report of that station shows that the work has been very much weakened by emigration and losses from massacres, etc. and it would seem that more vigorous touring and general pushing is needed to bring it up again, than Mr. Cole alone, with all the other work he has in hand can possibly accomplish. This also is to be considered, Mr. Cole, like myself, is getting along in years, and both of us are liable to drop out at any time, and it would seem that some one ought to be in training to take both of our places. In the Bitlis field the Moosh centre ought to be cultivated more vigorously than is practicable from Bitlis, and a secondary residence in some other part of their field might be very desirable, but this can hardly be without another evangelistic missionary. In our field too, it is quite probable that circumstances may so shape themselves as to make a good deal of touring most desirable, at least if any funds can be had with which to keep native evangelists in the field. Without this missionary touring would not amount to much. I should hesitate to ask for another missionary residence in Van, but as the orphanage work decreases, it may be possible so to utilize the annex to our house that by inclosing one or two more rooms on our roof, two families could be temporarily accommodated in this building. We have reached the point where we ought to expect that our juniors will increase and we decrease. So I would suggest that it is wise to find a man for Bitlis as soon as possible, and one for Van before very long.

Dr. Underwood made a very pleasant impression here, and it will be interesting to see how medical work can be made to develope in Bitlis.

Wife and I both feel the need of a vacation, but do not see any way of securing it at present. She plans to spend a week or two at S. Krekore, but with our girls and so many other people up there it is no longer a specially restful place. Dr. Ussher urges me to go over to the annual meeting of the W. Persian Mission, in Oct. but I have not decided to do so.

With kindest regards from us both for yourself and family and our other friends, I remain

Your's most sincerely

G. C. Raynolds.

Vran, July 25, 1902

Account of an Effort made at Van, Turkey, to carry on Evangelistic Work in Cooperation with the Gregorian Church.

Aug - 1902

When missionary work was begun in Turkey, it was with the hope of being able to introduce such reforms of doctrine and practice within the Armenian Church, as should make that organization an evangelizing power among the people, and it was only when effort in this line was rejected, and those who wished to accept a pure Gospel were persecuted beyond endurance, that a separate Protestant organization was made. So far as I know, it has been the constant hope of the Board and its missionaries that the time would come when the Gregorian Church would so far permit the introduction of evangelical ideas, together with freedom of conscience in their use, that it might be possible for the evangelical element to reunite with the Old Ch. and labor together with them for the salvation of the people and the enlightenment and elevation of the nation.. We have had a little hope that a step in this direction was being taken here in Van, but present appearances seem to indicate that the effort must be considered as unsuccessful, and it seems desirable to put on record a brief account of the movement. It has seemed to us that in what we have done in this matter, we have acted, not on our own motion, but in accord with the leadings of Providence. As is well known, after the massacre, an extensive relief work was conducted here, thro the generosity of friends in many different parts of the world, especially England, Germany and the U.S. under the supervision of the American mission. This work made a deep impression on the people generally, especially when it was seen that it was conducted not atall as a means of propagandism, being thus in very marked contrast to the relief work conducted by the Catholics. The Armenians also had some funds in hand for the work of relief, and little by little such a measure of rapprochment took place, that their work and ours came to be largely conducted together, and thus a spirit of mutual confidence and friendship was cultivated. In our orphanage work, we sought from the first to keep the children enrapport with their own people, while most earnestly seeking to inculcate true Christian principles. The children received daily Bible instruction, attended our religious services, and every opportunity for personal Christian instruction and influence was improved, but at the same time they were expected to attend the Gregorian Church, and no restriction was placed on their consciences in such matters as keeping of fast, going to their communion, etc. Seeing these things, many of the influential Armenians manifested a warm interest in the children and the orphanage, while Nerses Episcopos, the Arachnort of Van, took pains to manifest his sympathy in all suitable ways. In the class which graduated from our high school in 1899 were a number of most promising boys from the orphanage, and in my farewell address to them at the time of their graduation, I took pains to bid them go forth as loyal sons of their nation and labor for the elevation of their people. Not long after I had an opportunity for consultation on the subject of village schools, with the Locum Tenens of the Catholicate at Akhtamar, under whose ecclesiastical jurisdiction a large part of the Van vilayet lies, and I intimated that I should be very glad to have my boys go out and labor as loyal members of the national church, to teach the people, and especially the children, only stipulating that they be free to include Biblical instruction in the course they gave. This was willingly accepted on his part, and several of the boys were that winter sent out as teachers, and the number of village schools was considerably increased. Before long it was arranged that one of our preachers, whose work was largely among the villages and to whom was especially committed the oversight of the children who had gone out from the orphanage, should receive authorization from the Armenian ecclesiastical authorities to assist in the supervision of village schools, the appointment of teachers and the care of land belonging to the churches from which an income might be secured for the support of schools. This arrangement gave the preacher a most excellent opportunity to preach the Gospel in the churches, and he was most heartily welcomed by both priests and people. While an earnest, evangelical Christian, he is also very fond of the mother church, in which he was brought up, and believes in participating in its services so far as he can do so without violating his conscience, and his habit is to keep silence in those parts of the service which he considers opposed to the Gospel. The work which he was thus enabled to do in the villages was unique, most acceptable to the people, who

were thus enabled to get hold of Gospel truth, almost unknown to them, and thus very useful in immediate results, while promising much more if it could be continued. For a number of months this work went on most hopefully, a good many boys from the orphanage found places and did efficient work as teachers, and a good deal of Gospel light was scattered abroad.

After a couple of years however, a measure of opposition to this movement and jealousy of it began to develop, partly because a certain class of people feared that the employment of our preacher and graduates might diminish their chances for work, partly because the ecclesiastics found that our preacher was more acceptable to the people than they, and moreover they felt his pure life a silent reproach to their dissoluteness. There seems to be a good deal of reason to believe that the revolutionists also have a good deal to do with this opposition. It first manifested itself in connection with a society formed in the city, ostensibly to promote the mental advancement of the people. The objectionable moral character of its leaders was very evident from the beginning, and the evidence is increasing that it is a revolutionary propaganda. The present Van Arachnort was soon brought largely under its influence, and our preacher was officially removed from his connection with them in those parts of the vilayet under their ecclesiastical control. At the same time a very strong effort was made to induce the Locum Tenens of Akhtamar to unite with them in cutting off connection with the preacher, they even going so far as to make complaint to the Patriarch against him, but at that time he refused to conform to their wishes, and even defended himself in this course in a letter to the Patriarch. There seems good reason to believe that, failing in that effort, they have since used more effective means, such as are well known to the revolutionary fraternity, and have now succeeded in securing an order from him, excluding our preacher from the churches, and withdrawing his commission as superintendent of schools. Thus the present status seems to be that the cooperative work in interrupted. It is to be said however that the common people have heard the preacher gladly, and would welcome a continuance of his work, and also that there is a considerable element among the most educated and intelligent class of the community who are laboring to secure a resumption of coopearative work.

Do not publish.

That the work of these years has done a good deal to open the eyes of the people at large, particularly in the villages, to understand our real objects, viz. to enlighten and save the people, not to secure any selfish end., there is no doubt, and if we are obliged to return to the old system, and urge the people to separate from the old church, I believe we shall find a greater readiness to listen to us than if this effort had not been made. I believe that most are convinced that we are far more desirous to make Christians than to secure a Protestant following, and that this persuasion will make men much more ready to listen to the truth.

Our theological class, who have just completed a two years' course of Biblical study, had their graduating exercises on July 4th, and after a short rest, we hope to send them according to the original plan, to work among the villages. If they are kindly received by the ecclesiastics and permitted to work pleasantly with the representatives of the old church, well and good. If as is not unlikely, those who wish to accept the truth are persecuted, no way will remain but to facilitate the forming separate communities as has been done hitherto. We hope to secure such government papers as will enable them to labor in whatever way the Lord may direct.

I would request that friends to whom this paper may come should give us the benefit of their earnest prayers, that we may have guidance in all that concerns our action in these matters, and be kept from mistakes, and that the Lord's work may be greatly advanced by these efforts

(This statement is intended for private circulation. I feel sure its publication now, in this land, would be premature, and should any part be published anywhaer, I particularly request that what is said about the connection of the revolutionists with the opposition be not published, for reasons sufficiently obvious, I trust, not to need statement.)

Respectfully submitted. (Signed) G.C.Raynolds.

carry on the evangelistic work in connection with the Lingnan Church

Received with thanks — A.R.A.

OCT 6 1902

Van, July 26th. 1902.

Dear Mr. Andrus,

I inclose you a couple of circulars which you may care to look over, sending them with Mr. Cole's annual report and estimates, which he brot over here for us to read and forward. We have had a week's visit from him and Dr. Underwood, it being our first acquaintance with the latter, who made an impression quite favorable upon us. They came over by boat hoping to stay about three days, but the weather was not favorable for sailing andso we were the gainers in a longer visit. It is sad to see, in looking over the report and estimates, how greatly the work has run down there by emigration and oppression, and it seems as if it could only be revived by more vigorous touring work than Mr. Cole alone can possibly accomplish, and their feeling that Bitlis is not the best centre from which to work seems to have a good deal of sense in it. Mr. Cole feels very strongly that an ordained missionary is needed, both because the work is more than one man can do, and because he is getting toward the place where he may be expected to drop out anytime and there should be some one to take up his work when this happens.

Conditions, at least in this last line, are quite similar here in Van, and I certainly think that there should be another young man here to take up my work before very long. I hesitate to ask for another missionary residence, but when the orphanage work shall decrease a little more, it may be possible for us to locate ourselves somewhere and give up our house to a new comer. We feel that we have reached the place where we must expect to decrease, while our juniors increase. Of course in saying this, I do not mean to say that Mardin's present need is XXXX not more pressing than Van's. Your recent great loss must be supplied, and then you too have the necesity for a relief to be in readiness, only a little less that Mr. Cole and I have. But to send missionaries and not furnish them with tools and funds will not amount to very much. At present our appropriations do not allow us to give anything toward these young evangelists' support, whom we have just been getting ready, and it is only that some friends in England have become interested in our work and have rendered us aid, that we can hope to provide for them even this year, and this help is not assured for another year.

Our church is in a somewhat disturbed condition at present. Some unusual interest has been manifested of late, and we were led to send out a circular letter, asking for the reasons why the Lord's work does not advance more rapidly, and suggestions for a cure. The opportunity was improved to pour out their complaints against the missionaries and the preacher and eachother, and this critical mood is the prevalent one just now. However, agitation is better than stagnation, and I have much hope that good may come from it all.

Mr. Sterrett is with us now, expecting to stay till the McDowells arrive, and their planis to make Van their centre at least for the coming winter, and then see how circumstances seem to lead them.

We are not getting much vacation this summer, tho Mattie plans to spend a fortnight at S. Krekore, but with the girls there, and it become so fashionable place of resort, it will not be much of a rest. Dr. Ussher is urging me to attend the meeting of the W. Persian Mission at Oroomiah in Oct. but I have no special idea of doing so unless I should feel that my health absolutely demanded it.

Mattie joins in love to you and Olive and the other members of your circle, and I am

Yours most sincerely. G. C. Raynolds.

SEP 22 1902 54.

Van, Aug. 25th, 1902.

OCT 4 1902

Dear Dr. Barton,

Your kind letter of July 5th. came in due time, and we are glad to know from that and from the copy of a letter writen to the Mission Sec. that you do not forget us. We have clung to the hope that a kindergartner would be found to improve such an exceptional opportunity and come out with the McDowells, but I fear it is a vain hope, as they were to have started before this, and we hear nothing from you on the subject. Dr. Ussher has answered your inquiries about Miss McLaren's plans, his letter having gone a week before this letter of yours arrived. Our native kindergarten teacher is not well this year, and we feel the need of a regular American kindergartener more and more and we have almost reached the place where that department must be closed if the one long waited for does not appear. It is very important that we should have a good musician, as that is a line in which we have always been weak, and late arrivals have not strengthened us very much. A good singer and musician would be worth a great deal to us.

With reference to mission meetings, I would say a word. Mr. Andrus suggests, and I agree with him, that it is very important to have a meeting next year, but we none of us see how its expense is to be provided for without a special appropriation for that purpose. Our appropriations have been cut down from the figure arranged some time ago, while with us in Van certainly, the work has grown and the present appropriations do not suffice for the work actually in hand, and were it not for help from other sources, we should be obliged to give up a considerable part of our present work. Friends in England support our evangelists, tho nothing is pledged for any length of time ahead, but I feel considerable confidence that their help may be expected

for the present. To take money from our diminished appropriations for general work and use ~~them~~ it for expense of an annual meeting does not seem right or practicable, nor do I suppose that many of us would be able to provide for the expense of attending a meeting from our salaries. Bitlis and Van are so near together that this might be done, and possibly with Erzroom included, it might be possible, tho from Erzroom to Van is a considerable journey, but when it comes to bringing Harpoot and Van, or Mardin and Erz. together, it becomes a too formidable undertaking for our limited resources. Mr. Andrus suggests that the Board vote Lt 100. for the expenses of a meeting and then make it obligatory upon the mission to hold a meeting next year, say in July, after the schools have closed, and that with a satisfactory attendance. It is Van's turn for a meeting, but if it is deemed impractcable to come to so remote a station, then I should say it should be at Bitlis, which comes the nearest to being central to all the other stations.

The attempt to keep up a mission organization without meetings seems to me a failure, especially with the system of counting votes on intersessional votes now practiced, viz. of counting all who do not vote as voting in the negative. On this plan we have barely been able to secure approval for furloughs, and a vote to count only the persons giving their signatures was lost. Even with an appropriation, it will be difficult to spare delegates from their work long enough to attend meetings, with the present mission limits. It almost seems that each station must deal directly with the Rooms, or only contiguous stations be grouped together. The increasing insecurity of travel is another element in the problem. I am happy to report our buildings as nearly ready for the roofs, and we hope to have them covered before the rains begin. I am thinking very seriously of attending the W. Persian Mission meeting, at my own charges, of course, but feeling so sure that both the mission and the Board would approve that I have not considered it necessary to ask a vote on the subject.

Yours very sincerely G. C. Raynolds.

Rec'd Aug. 25, 1902

Van, Oct. 23rd. 1902.

Dear Friends,

May I send you another circular letter regarding my own condition and that of the work here?

I have been feeling very greatly the need of a vacation, which I was not able to secure during the summer, on account of the building, but by the middle of Sep. the roofs were on both the hospital and dormitory, and it seemed practicable to leave for a while At the same time, Mr. Sterrett, of the West Persian Mission of the Presbyterian Board, who had been spending a few weeks here, was starting for the annual meeting of their mission at Oroomiah, and he asked me to join him, the friends there having already given me a very warm invitation to visit them, and so we started, Sep. 18th. going by the way of Bashkalla and Gawar, a route which I had never taken before, and spent the Sabbath at the latter place. Our Monday's journey followed a small stream, which later becomes one of the chief rivers of the Oroomiah plain, and it was interesting to see the place where an immense land-slide happened a few years ago, when the whole face of the mountain, beginning some two thousand feet above the river bed, rushed down and filled the valley, damming up the stream, which formed an immense lake, extending back for many miles. After a few days, this dam broke away, sending destruction all along the course of the river to the lake. Enough of the dam however remains to make a lake three miles long, and compel the making of a new road, or bridle path, along the mountain side for its whole length..

My reception at Oroomiah was most cordial and delightful, and it was a rich treat to be entertained by my cousin, Mrs. Mary (Schauffler) Labaree, in her most hospitable home. Nearly all the circle were old friends, and the week before the meeting began was most restful and refreshing. One of the delegates from Tabriz was already known and I was very glad to make the acquaintance of the others, and to welcome the McDowell family, returning from America, and who subsequently came on with me to Van, in order to establish their residence here for the present, as a centre for work among the mountain Nestorians of Turkey. The meeting of the mission continued for a week, and it was both interesting and inspiring to me to be present at such a gathering, and breathe its spiritual atmosphere, and especially was I cheered by the reports of what the Lord has begun to do for the non-Christian population of Persia, by the hands of His devoted servants there. It is several years since I have been priveleged to attend any similar gathering, and I trust I have received an up-lift which will be very helpful in my own work. Certainly I have received a grand rest and decided recuperation physically, so that I return to my own work with a feeling of having been made over. Despite the chronically desturbed state of the border, the whole journey was made without any trouble either from Koords, or over-officious officials, the only drawback to the comfort of the journey being the sickness of Mrs. McDowell, which detained us a day in a miserable Koordish village, but the next day we were able to prepare her a place on the top of one of the loads, as to enable her to reach Van safely.

I have before writen of the new work we are inaugurating this autumn in the villages, and this has been much on my mind and in my prayers during my absence, and was the first thing to be inquired about on my return. I find that Arsen Vartabed, the Locum Tenens of the Akhtamar Catholicate, has been making most vigorous efforts to prevent our young men, who have spent two years in theological study, and have now gone out for evangelistic work in the villages, from obtaining a foothold anywhere. He openly stirred up the people to refuse to rent them any rooms, and to forcibly expel them and inflict personal injury upon them, and in one village, where despite his efforts, they did secure a room, he incited the people to use violence with them during his own visit to the village, and had their sleeping room attacked in the night, large stones being thrown violently thro the windows, sufficient to have killed them, had they struck them, as they easily might have done, but for the Lord's protecting mercy. The Government, I am happy to say, has taken vigorous measures to prevent such violence and secure protection for our workers, plainly telling the vartabed that he is a hundred years behind the times, in attempting to prevent the entrance of the truth by violence. The conduct of the vartabed is having its natural effect in impelling the villagers to come to our preachers and to seek the truth. Dr. Ussher has visited that village since the persecution and met with a cordial reception.

A priest of a near village, of whom we have seen a good deal for the past few months, who seems to have accepted the truth, and has been trying to impart what he has learned to his people, and who has subscribed for the Avadaper, our Protestant Armenian paper, has been warned to stop his preaching, to cut off all communication with us, and cease reading this paper. He replied that he had found benefit from these things, and felt bound to make known to his people the truth he had learned, and if he could not be permitted to do this while maintaining his connection with the Gregorian Church, he tendered his resignation of his office. It has not been accepted as yet.

One of our theological student evangelists has just gone with our itinerant evangelist to Shadakh, an important local centre, two days south of Van, with the purpose of beginning evangelistic work there. Knowing of such a plan, Arsen Vartabed had already taken measures to incite the villagers to prevent his securing an entrance there, and for a while it looked as if it would be impossible to obtain a room there, but after a while the way opened to get perhaps the most desirable room in the place, which is now being fitted up for his occupancy, the local govenor having taken a most friendly attitude toward us, and we hope he will be able to maintain himself there. A graduate of our school was already teaching there, and a strong effort was made to drive him away, but it has not, thus far, been succesful.

It certainly seems as if the Lord were leading us on to inaugurate a new work, especially in the villages, and if we prove faithful to the charge thus committed to us, I believe we may expect great things this winter. One serious difficulty however presents itself. The appropriations which we receive from the Board leave no margin whatever for this work. For the present year, funds received from England permit us to make a beginning, but we have no pledge of the continuance of this help, and yet this opening seems so clearly providential that we do not dare to refuse to enter it. May I not ask our friends for both the help of their prayers and their contributions to enable us to carry on this most promising work?

Friends will be glad to know that the Van mission circle has been increased by the arrival of little Miss Dorethea at the house of Dr. and Mrs. Ussher

Now that I am home again, I find work pressing in many directions, and the first thing is the preparation of my annual accounts, which with the very brief time I can give them from other routine work, will occupy me for several weeks, and till this is completed, I shall not be able to prepare the letters and reports for those of our orphanage patrons who have not yet received them, and so I hope they will be patient with me, if these letters are a little delayed.

I am sorry to say that there is more than usual sickness at present in the orphanage, and three girls died during my absence, tho not from any epidemic One of them, while lying down, from a slight indisposition, had eaten freely of water-melon, and then vomited and drew the fluid into her lungs, causing her death before help would reach her, and another was a victim of tuberculosis from which she had suffered ever since she came to us.

Aside from sickness, the orphanage is in satisfactory condition. We hope, during the winter, to complete the inside work on the dormitory which we are erecting for our German patrons, so that it shall be ready for occupancy in the spring, and then the girls who are now the most distant from us will be moved nearer where they can be more satisfactorily supervised. I am happy to report the self-government plan as working satisfactorily, and having a beneficial effect on the morale of the boys generally.

With best wishes for the welfare of all our friends, I remain

Most sincerely Your's

G.C.Raynolds.

This letter I did not think important since

HARRY WADE HICKS

56
NOV 25 1902
NOV 26 1902

Van, Oct. 24th. 1902.

Dear Dr. Barton,

Your favor of Sep. 9th. is unanswered. I now inclose a circular letter which will show you that I have at last taken my vacation, and obtained a great deal of good from it. Now that I am safely back, I am, of course very much crowded with work, so that I am sure you will excuse me for not writing a long letter.

We are very glad to know that we may hope for the coming of a kindergartner next year, and will try to possess our souls in patience till then. We are greatly grieved at the sad depletion of the Harpoot and Mardin circles, and are wondering what is to be the outcome of it all. New men coming in there will not be able to take up the work of those who are dropping out, and even new ones are hard to find, I fear.

While I was in Oroomiah I heard that a Mr. Allen, who went out there as teacher and conducter of trades, but who has since gone to America and is now preaching, is willing to return, but it is not certain that there will be an opening for him there. It occurs to me that if we could have such a man here to attend to our windmill and other machinery, superintend our trades work, take the special charge of the boys' school, which very greatly needs more supervision than it is possible for me to give it, and at the same time take a share of other departments of mission work, and be ready to take my place when I drop out, as certainly I must do before very many years, it would be an excellent thing. His address is "Rev. E. T. Allen, Portland, Oregon." Dr. Labaree says he is very highly spoken of, and he would like his return there. If you see best, you might look into the matter. I think his wife knows Armenian.

Please excuse this short letter, and believe me, with kindest regards from us both to yourself and family and other friends,

Your's most sincerely G. C. Raynolds.

NOV 25 1902

NOV 26 1902

Van, Oct. 27th. 1902.

Dear Dr. Barton,

It occurs to me that perhaps I ought to have said a word about my going to Persia, in the line of its regularity or otherwise. I did not send around any vote for approval of the mission, nor ask permission from Boston. Of course I ask no money for expenses, and I felt so sure that no objection would be made to my being absent from home for a month, that I went along without saying anything about it. If you consider it irregular, please let me know, that I may know what to do another time.

We were greatly saddened on Saturday by the receipt of a telegram from Erz. announcing the departure of Dr. Parmelee from the scene of his earthly labors. The loss to the mission and especially the Treb. station, is very great, and his poor wife will find it a very severe blow. How very sadly the ranks of the Turkish missionaries are being depleted! Harpoot seems almost broken up, Mardin very greatly weakened, Trebizond entirely vacant, and what is to be done to make good the losses? Even if new men are ready to start at once, they will not be able to fill the places of the experienced workers w ho have fallen, and it does not seem hopeful that even these new and inexperienced men can be found. I wonder if Messrs Allen and Richardson might not now be utilized, in case they are willing to come. We are very thankful to know that the Board closed the year out of debt, , and earnestly pray that the co ing year may prove a year when some advance in the work can be made, and that our new evangelists may be taken up by the Board.

With renewed good wishes,

Your's as ever

G. C. Raynolds.

Rec'd DEC 30 1902

Van, Nov. 25th. 1902.

Ans'd DEC 31 1902

Dear Dr. Barton,

Your very kind letter of Oct. 8th. came to hand a short time ago, and it is very kind of you to be so thoughtful of our welfare, and we do most highly appreciate it, and as you desire to hear frequently, I will send just a line today, tho there is not time for a long letter.

I am glad to say that Mr. Campbell, the English evangelist of whom I think I have spoken, whom I found in Oroomiah, has now been working with us for two weeks, and we are quite well pleased with his methods, and feel that a good deal is being accomplished, tho the work thus far is going on in a quiet way. The greatest interest, thus far, is among the children in the schools, and there is a good deal of this. The church has not yet waked up as we want to see it, but a church meeting last night was more encouraging than any previous one has been. The weather has been and is most unfavorable for attendance on public meetings, but still considerable numbers do come in. We feel like having Mr C. stay on for the present, for this sort of work, while by far the most important branch, has been sadly neglected, for lack of time amid the so pressing demands of more secular departments. We are not crowding the meetings, but have three public meetin s during the week, here on Wed. morning, the regular time for the weekly prayer-meeting, and on Thursday evening at 7 o'clock. Then there is a meeting in the city on Friday at 4 P.M. We realize more and more how short-handed we are, and that at least another worker is greatly needed here. Dr. H.S. Barnum has writen asking our opinion about having Herbert Allen come out for the Avadaper, and suggests it might be well for him to spend a time in the interior before beginning that work. It seems to wife and me that he might be the one for the place, and if there is no arrangement for permanently supplying our nee s, we might like him to come here till needed at Cons'ple. tho as at present supplied, it might be necessary for him to live

in a rented house. Still I have had no opportunity as yet to talk wit the other members of the station on the subject.. It seems to me that the Prud.Com.might well consider the question of making Van a three fam station,and of providing a third missionary residence here. If a man mechanical tastes and abilities might be the third man,I think it would most desirable as we intimated in the vote suggesting the inviting of t other Mr.Allen. The boys'school certainly needs more efficient superv ion than I can give it,both in educational and religious lines. The d rectly evangelistic work certainly needs far more care than it receives Our native preacher seems not to have succeeded as yet in winning the p ple so as to secure an invitation to be ordained as pastor,and whether will be likely to remain more than the three years for which he was cal is not clear. If we could find just the men needed for pastor and tea ers,the demand for missionary labor might be in a measure supplied by t but even then it would be most desirable to have another man here,even side from the fact that I am getting old,and can not be expected to hol on so very many years more.

The papers this week contain some account of the Oberlin meeting,b no special papers with full reports have reached us. It may be that Congregationalist has fuller reports than the Advance,but I do not know we should have time to read them,even if full accounts were here. We are earnestly hoping that there may not only be no more debt,but that i may be possible to push and expand the work as it has not been possible do in the past.

Wife joins in kindest regards to yourself and family and to other friends,and I remain

Your's ever most sincerely

G. C. Raynolds.

HARRY WADE HICKS

Fr. D. Barton,

Rec'd JAN 6 1903

59

Van, Dec. 1st. 1902.

Ans'd JAN 7 1903

Dear Friends,

I sent out a circular a few weeks since telling of my visit to Oroomiah and the condition of the work on my return, especially with reference to the cooperative work. You may be interested to know that we have now established two of the theological class in two different centres one at Shadakh, and one at the village of Mashgudag, in the Haigatsore valley We sent word to these three members of the class who were out, to come in for a conference, which began on Wed. Nov. 5th. Mr. McDowell most kindly staying so as to take charge of it for two days. He held three special sessions with the preachers, and another which included the teachers in the schools, and the conference continued a day after he left, and it was a very solemn and interesting gathering. That Sat. Nov. 8th. Mr. Campbell, the English evangelist whom I had met in Oroomiah and invited to visit us, arrived, and we kept these young men here another week to enjoy his meetings also. After ten days two of them left as mentioned above to occupy the places where rooms had been secured, while Bn. Rushdonian remained to work with Mr. Campbell. As this gentleman is willing to remain here as long as Providence may seem to call him to do so, we thought it better not to crowd meetings too much, and thus far, besides the Sunday services, there have been three public meetings during the week, two here and one in the city. Besides these, he holds a good many meetings for the people on the premises, the 400 orphans, and about as many day pupils, and the 40 or so employes, and the pupils in the city girls' school. Nearly all the rest of his time he spends in seeing those who wish to talk with him, and it is for this work that we have kept Rushdonian especially, as he must, of course have a translator except in the case of the few who speak English. He finds his time well filled, tho most of those who have come to him as yet have been from the compound, but some from outside. I think it correct to say that an efficient tho quiet work of Grace is going on in all the schools, a good number of the older boys, for instance, who were hopefully Christians before, have been greatly quickened, and a pretty large number of others, both among the orphans and the day pupils, have expressed their determination to serve the Lord, and seem to give good reason to believe that the determination is sincere and intelligent. Thus far the weather has been most unpropitious, storming almost every day, and thus making the streets almost impassable, but the Sabbath audiences have been increasingly good, and the same is true of the Thursday evening meetings. The discouraging feature is that the church members are not yet waked up to the extent they ought to be, tho some improvement is noticable among them. Special meetings for them are being held on Monday evenings, and last week there seemed to be evidence that the Spirit was with us, and some confessions were made. We feel that appearances are very hopeful, and that it is wise to try and retain Mr. Campbell with us for the present, since this evangelistic work, by far the most important branch of our work, is necessarily very greatly neglected in consequence of the fact that the time of all of us on the ground is so entirely filled with routine work, from which we can not get free, but which prevents the work with individuals, and the special meetings which it is desirable to carry on. We feel that the Lord sent Mr. Campbell to us, and we hope these months may witness large results from his efforts, and that the influences may reach outside the present limits. We bespeak the prayers of our friends and fellow workers for the continued and greatly increased success of the work, and I remain

Yours most sincerely G. C. Raynolds.

Rec'd JAN 6 19
Ans'd JAN 7 1903

60.

Rec'd JAN 19 1903

Van, Dec. 19th. 1902.

Dear Dr. Barton,

Ans'd FEB 2 1903

Your favor of Nov. 17th. inclosing the appropriations for the coming year reached us this week. We are very thankful that the appropriations are not cut down, and that the dear Board is out of debt, but we do feel the need of increased appropriations in order for the Board to carry on the work as it ought to be carried on. There is no provision in our appropriations for the village work, and it is only because the Lord has raised up kind friends in England that we are able to provide for it. Two sisters in England, the Misses Mayo, became interested in our orphanage work, and then extended their interest to the evangelistic work, and for two years now have provided for the salary of Bn. Kooroozian, our itinerant evangelist. I am most thankful to say that the same post which brought the notification from you, brought also a letter from them saying that they would continue their contributions for this purpose another year, and we did praise the Lord and take courage from that. But we have no promise of the continuance of this aid another year. Last year there was also a small contribution from the B.L.M.A.Soc. which provided for the support of the three theological students who went out in July, but we do not yet know how they are to be provided for the coming year, yet it seems to us so clear a case of Providential leading that we feel sure that in some way the Lord will provide for them also.

Their work is opening, tho many difficukties are being thrown in their wayArsen Vartabed and his associate at Akhtamar, Taniel Vartabed, are doing their level best to obstruct our work, but it looks as if the effect would be the one we naturally expe t from such efforts, viz. to increase the interest of the people in the truth, and lead them the

more earnestly to inquire what the truth is. At Mashgudag, the village nearest to the city which has been occupied, Bn. Armenag reports that he is holding meetings every evening, with from 20 to 50 present and that there are a number who give reason to hope that they have been born again, and several of these young men have been here and certainly they appear very well. Bn. Ghevant is so far away that we are not able to know so much about his work. He had not the nucleus to work on which Bn. Armenag had at Mashgudag, and a letter which he has just writen tells that Taniel Vartabed had just been there and stirred up the people to oppose his efforts, and they said they would punish all who came to him, etc. but it still looks as if he would be able to secure a hearing, and we expect that an entrance will be secured even there. The third one of the theological students appointed for village work, we are now keeping here to assist Mr. Campbell, who is of course to do all his work thro an interpreter. Most of this translating in the public meetings falls to my lot, but in private conversations and in small meetings B. Rushdonian is able to render the needed assistance, and it is a splendid school for him, which I think he is well improving.

We sympathize very deeply with the ladies of the W.B. and with you all in the great loss you have sustained in the death of Miss Child. It seems to have been a real translation for her, and an unspeakable gain, but the loss to the work is very great. Still doubtless the Lord has somebody else in reserve to fill the vacancy, who wl will be made evident in due time.

We are very thankful to believe that the kindergartner whom we have been so long looking for is at last found, and we wish it might be possible for her to start so early as to reach Erzroom in time

to come on with the party from there to attend the mission meeting. since Mr.Stapleton writes that they are fully intending to come on for a meeting next summer. Their idea seems to be to come during the summer vacation of the schools,say early in July,and I trust that would be early enough to enable the reports to reach you in time for the use you make of them in preparation for the annual meeting. Whether any delegates from the western end of the mission will be able to come remains to be seen,but doubtless Bitlis would send delegates at least,even if they should not do what Erzroom seems to be thinking of doing,viz.come en Masse,and so make it a summer outing. If our new teacher could come early enough to join the Erz.party,it would be very nice,and better in many respects than to come via Russia. I think it would be practicable to procure some sort of escort by which she could come from Trebizond to Erz.

By the way,will Trebizond remain unoccupied,or will some one be found to go there and take up the work? It seems as if that station ought to be occupied,both for the direct evangelistic and educational work needed there,and because it is the port of entry for these three interior stations,and our business can hardly be safely trusted to exclusively native supervision.

I am happy to report that Mr.Campbell's work seems to be progressing favorably. There is no special excitement,but the meetings are well attended,and there seem to be a good many inquirers who are really interested. I think he will remain till after the week of prayer at least,and will visit our outstation of Agants on his way to Bitlis. We are thankful for his coming and hope that much and permanent good may come from it. The church members are not yet where we desire tosee them,but there has certainly been some improvement among them.

I do not think of anything else of special interest to write and so will close with hearty greeting to yourself and family and to all ourfriends at the rooms, in which wife heartily joins and I remain

Your's most sincerely

G. C. Raymolds.

Yours, Decl 19, 1902

Rec'd MAR 10 1903

61

Van Feb.7th.1903.

Ans'd MAR 13 1903

Dear Dr.Barton,

Your favor of Nov.26th.is still unanswered,and shall be at least acknowledged today. I am getting off circulars today,and so making the accompanying letters short. I thought this time I would send circulars direct from here to most of those on the list I have sent with you and Miss Wheeler,instead of asking to have them printed there and sent out. I do not know just what your wish is regarding such circulars,how valuable you consider them,or how extensively you wish them circulated. I am sending to over fifty persons in America,besides to as many more in England and a few in Germany. Of course the cost of postage is considerable but I feel justified at present in charging this to the orphanage,because it is primarily for the sake of reaching its patrons that it is prepared,but it also tells of the general work,and so you might wish it circulated for the purpose of awakening interest in that. The postage would be much less if it was printed and sent out from your office as printed matter,but I have a fancy that a letter coming directly from a foreign country is more likely to be read that a printed leaflet sent from America. How is it?

Thank you for the assurance that you are seeking an associate for us here in Van as well as in other places. We do not yet hear of Miss Norton's actual appointment by the W.B.but hope there is no doubt that such appointment will be made. We are very glad that the Harpoot College question seems in the way of satisfactory settlement,and trust that God's blessing may rest on this arrangement.

We wait with great interest the result of that delegation's visit to Washington,and devoutly pray and expect that the rights granted to other nations will be soon granted to us also. If not,it would seem that our work is liable to be greatly crippled. Fortunately for us,we have a most excellent Vali,and the local officials generally are very friendly,but some of the medical officers,who are jealous of Dr.Ussher's success,are trying to secure the closure of his hospital. They did secure an order to this effect last summer,but it was disregarded,but recently a more imperative order has come. The local Circumlocution Office has set to work to find out How not to do it,and will at least postpone such action,but if the demands of our government are disregarded,they will doubtless be obliged to obey the order in the end. We also need a new church building,but till our rights are granted,it will be difficult to secure orders for its erection.

Mr.Campbell left us on Wed.with the intention of laboring ten days or so at Agants,and then moving on to Bitlis. We are very thankful that he came here,and hope to be able to continue the work begun. Last evening we inaugurated a catechumen's class,to meet weekly for the present,and about forty were present. As to Mr.Campbell's expenses,he came here at his own charges,i.e.with funds already in his hands. We boarded him while here,and made him some small presents inthe way of clothing,etc.from the orphanage and station,and we pay his road expenses till he reaches the Bitlis field. Our people also gave him a present of something over L2.

Wife joins in kindest greetings for you all and I remain

Your's most sincerely

G. C. Raynolds

ar Friends,

My last circular was sent out just after my return from Persia Oct.1902. Not long after that time, our village preachers were called for a conference, in which the teachers of our schools were permitted to are. Rev.F.W.McDowell of the Pres.Mission to Persia, who was with us, s so kind as to give us his assistance in this conference for two days, d his work was most acceptable and profitable for us all. On Sat.of e same week, Mr.John Campbell, an English evangelist whom I had met in O-omiah and invited to visit Van, arrived and immediately began an evange-stic campaign, holding meetings and conversing with individuals, and he has mained with us till the present time, but is now on the eve of starting r Bitlis and the regions beyond. The Lord has added His blessing to Mr. mpbell's work, and a pretty large number from the children in the schools d from the young men and adults about us have become interested in spi-tual things, and give reason to hope that they are converted. One of the rdest things to accomplish among our people is to secure personal testi-ny as to what the Lord has done for individual souls, but during the last w days several meetings have been set apart as testimony meetings, and a rge number have given their witness as to what the Lord has done for eir souls, some by word of mouth, and some in writing. I regret to say at the church members have but partially come up to a sense of their re-onsibilities, and I believe that a ten fold greater blessing might have en secured, if they had put away all their coldness and indifference, and rown themselves with vigor into the work. However their condition has ch improved, and we hope for continued advance on their part, and in the ne of new awakening among the impenitent. Quite a number of individuals om the rowdy class have already come out and taken a decided stand on e Lord's side, and show a very marked change of conduct and character. am glad to report that in the matter of supporting their preacher and ntributing for evangelistic work outside, the brethren are doing very well shown by the report of their treasurer at the annual church meeting held is week, and this is a very encouraging feature of the work. We bless e Lord for what He has already done and take courage to expect still eater things in the future.

Of our three village preachers newly sent out, one has been helping Mr. ampbell in translation work, and so has been hindered from laboring in his n field, but the other two are hard at work in their separate fields. e ecclesiastics are doing all they can to prevent their work, and are chu ompelling those who wish to study and accept the Gospel to withdraw more less fully from the old church. One of these young men has laready a onsiderable following in the village where he is located, and the other, in much harder field, seems to be beginning to get a hold of the people, and anticipate for both an increasing measure of success.

The Armenian holidays are much later than ours, their new year coming our Jan.14th. While their Christmas comes six days later, and so it comes out that our two weeks' vacation has just closed, but it finds us mission-ries a little more tired than at the beginning. During the first week I ave two magic lantern exhibitions to two different schools. I am glad say that this year we have a new set of slides illustrating the Pilgrim rogress, the gift of our former associate, Miss Huntington, and we tender her ur most hearty thanks. Such slides, especially those illustrating moral Biblical subjects are most useful, and I can but hope that some other friends may follow her good example. On Sat.evening the orphans had their Christmas tree, an account of which, prepared by Miss McLaren, is appended. These, with the preparation for them, took a good deal of time. The fol-lowing Mond.was Christmas day and the people spend it and the two follow-ing days in calling, etc.and we improve the opportunity to keep in touch with the people. Dr.Ussher and I spent two whole days in calling, going to nearly 150 places. On Wed.we improved the opportunity to hold a receptio for the Protestants and those who are in full sympathy with us, and about 225 people spent several hours in social converse, with tea and crackers to help on the sociability, and before breaking up Mr.Campbell gave them a short address. We feel that an occasional gathering of this kind is very

helpful in promoting acquaintance and brotherly feeling among the people. The annual meeting of the church was held on the following Monday, and on Tuesday we invited the boys who have gone out from the orphanage to retur to the family roof and spend the day together. About 75 were able to co and it was good indeed to see them with us once more. Mr. Campbell gave them a short address, after which we all had dinner together, and then the magic lantern was shown to them and those now in the orphanage. After this the boys held a meeting of their C.E. Soc. and elected their officers for the new year, then our head teacher gave them a most excellent addres the roll was called and those present received a hymn book or a piece of money of equivelent value, and so ended a most pleasant & profitable day.

Miss McLaren furnishes the following account of Christmas.

"The children had long been awaiting the coming of Christmas, and for weeks might have been heard to say "Happy will be that day when Christmas comes." To many it was slow in arriving, but it got here at last.

The question of providing a present, however small, for so many childr is a difficult one where money is scarce and the supply of desirable thir is small. However, friends in Germany and America and other places helpe in its solution, and no child was left unremembered. Christmas day came Monday Jan. 19th. and the entertainment for the orphans was held on Saturd In order to save time, the girls received their presents in the afternoon. Fiends had sent some dolls, and these were given to the girls who had bee received since last Christmas. No mother was ever more proud of her lit tle one than were these girls when they became possessors of their dolls. One poor little girl almost totally blind was one of the fortunate ones, and it was touching to see her as she tried to gain some idea of her tre sure; then as if failing to get a clear picture, she laid her baby's face a gainst her own, perfectly happy. Most girls received a picture card and spool of thread, and every one had that without which no Christmas would l complete, a new handkerchief containing a generous supply of nuts, raisins dates, figs and candy. Some of the older girls had Bibles or hymn-books

In the evening all the children, both boys and girls, gathered in the chapel to bring to mind the real meaning of Christmas time, a hymn was su and one of the teachers read the sweet story of the coming of the Christ child. Appropriate native hymns had been learned and were sung at inte vals during the evening. Several of the boys and girls gave recitation and some read essays on various subjects. No matter what was the subje of the composition, sooner or later the writer found opportunity to expre for himself and companions their gratitude to those who provide the mean to keep them here. Two teachers also gave short talks to the children.

Then came the distribution of the presents. On the platform stood beautiful, large Christmas tree, bearing many cards, and at one side of the platform were piles of handkerchiefs filled with goodies, and also new fe caps, such as they are accustomed to wear, all made in our own shops.

Some of the patrons of the orphanage have a custom of sending money for their particular orphans. This money is usually kept till the owne is ready to leave the orphanage, and then provides a little capital on wh to start out in life. The names of the children fortunate enough to ha such patrons were read, and the recipients of a few piastres were as prou as tho they had inherited millions. Each boy received a card, a handker chief and a new cap, and pocket knives were given to the captains and ass tants and some of the larger boys. The boys had planned other things t make the evening a real frolic, but owing to the illness of Miss Batrunky the German lady who assists in the orphanage, and the existence of unusual religious interest, it seemed better that the festivities should be of a quieter nature, in spite of which, all who were priveleged to attend enj the evening's entertainment very much, and it would be difficult to fin who would not agree that Christmas is the happiest time of al the year

Believe me Your's most sincerely

G.W. Raynolds.

REC'D APR 3 1903

63.

Van, Feb. 10th. 1903.

Dear Dr. Barton,

Our greatly delayed post arrived last evening and brought your favor of Jan. 1st, which was read with great interest. I am glad that Mr. Allen looks favorably on the Avadaper work, and can but hope that he is the one for the place and this the place for him, and that in due time he will work into that position.

We are greatly encouraged by the hope your letter gives that our Gov. will push for our rights from the Turkish Gov. I believe the order to close the hospital is coming round this week, with the understanding that he is to decline to accept such an order unless sent thro our Minister. Unless our rights are secured this sort of thing can only be temporary, and sometime we may happen to have a hostile Vali and then such an order will be enforced.

I am glad to hear that the Longmeadow friends are continuing to send their contributions here. I sent them a letter with the circular by this week's post. If their contribution is what you report, viz. $148. it equals Lt 33.65. Our city preacher's half salary is from the Board and amounts to Lt 25. which, if they take, there remains Lt 8.63 to use for some other purpose. We might perhaps consider that this with a share of what is secured from tuition would pay the salary of one teacher in the boys' school, and I think I will write to them definitely that Bad. Garabed Sheranian and the teacher Garabed Shaljian in the boys' school are cared for by them, and this will leave the other teachers for you to assign to others if you wish. On another sheet I will make out the list of work which the Board is caring for, as the circular which also came by this post requests.

You ask about Mr. Campbell. Yes he is an independent evangelist, i.e. is not supported by any special Board or Soc. but depends on what the Lord may give him for his support. He is not at present connected with any denomination, but thinks that when he returns to Eng. he may identify himself with the Babtists, as he has friends among them. He has worked with both the Methodists and Plymouth Brethren, but is not at present connected with either. He is a young man, who has not had a college or special theological training, but is very familiar with the Bible, and has a happy way of presenting its truth. He succeeded in gaining the interest of the people here and winning their love, and I think did a good work, and we are going to try to make it permanent. Last Friday evening we inaugurated a catechumen's class which we hope to continue weekly till Easter, and about 40 were present at this first meeting, for most of whom we have considerable hope that they may be renewed, tho they are not members of our church. How many of them will wish to identify themselves fully with us as Protestants time will show. Hitherto this has been rather the difficulty with our work that many who give evidence of conversion do not wish to unite with our church. Perhaps the effort we have been making for cooperative work may have encouraged this tendency. We do not feel like making prominent any invitation to unite with us, but on the other hand we shall be glad if a considerable number do this come out, and believe that such a step would tend to strengthen the work. We pray that the Lord may guide in all this. Perhaps I wrote that we personally boarded Mr. Campbell while he was here, and from the station and orphanage we pay his travelling expenses till he reaches the Bitlis field, and gave him a full suit of clothes, etc.

Hope the circular sent out by last post will reach you safely. We have had three earthquake shocks lately, but not secvere enough to do harm, or even to make people much nervous, for which we are thankful.

Wife joinsin kindest regards to yourself and family and our other friends and I remain Your's most sincerely

G. C. Raynolds.

Tau, February 10, 1903

Rec'd APR 25 1903

64.

Van, March 12th. 1903.

Ans'd APR 30 1903

Dear Dr. Barton,

I inclose to you a communication which our teachers have prepared for Mr. Carnegie, in the hope of securing a donation from him for a library for this city of Van. It was not prepared at the suggestion of the missionaries, indeed such a movement seemed hardly sufficiently hopeful to warrant the effort, but as they were very enthusiastic in the matter, we did not feel like discouraging them. The object is one of which we have often spoken, and which we consider exceedingly desirable, and which we should very much like to see secured, and we should be more than glad to do all in our power to further the object.

As we are not acquainted with Mr. Carnegie, the appropriate method seems to be to send it to you to forward, unless you should feel that it was entirely inappropriate or unwise to do so.

I confess that my own faith is very weak as to any important result coming from the application, but it seemed not best for us to refuse to send the letter, since they had their hearts set on it.

As this year is the 25th. anniversary of the beginning of the girls' school, and proximately of the boys' school as well, it has seemed desirable to have a little celebration of the event this summer, and we are sending out notifications to former teachers and pupils in America and in this country, hoping that some funds may also be raised for some object appropriate to the occasion. Should a mission meeting materialize here this summer, it would be nice to have the two things syncronize, but I am not sure that this would be possible.

I am now at work on our station annual report, but the minutes I can snatch for it are few. Mr. McDowell reached us yesterday, after four months of lonely work up in the Koordish mountains, and we are all glad to

see him, and feel that he deserves a rest after such a campaign.

We are having the severest winter we have seen for many years, and the roads generally are just about impassable, and our posts are a month and more behind hand. Dr. Ussher has gone to Haigatsore today, but even for that he will find hard work for his horse. Yesterday he tried to go to a village an hour distant, but his horse could not get thro, and he had to resort to snow shoes. Mr. McDowell came all the way on foot. Mr. Campbell seems to have reached Bitlis, as we learn by wire, but have no postal news since he left Agants. We still have snow almost every day.

With kindest regards from us both for yourself and family and our other friends, I remain

Your's most sincerely

G. C. Raynolds.

This is to certify that the names signed to the accompanying document are those of teachers in the schools which we are carrying on here in Van, which is a city situated near the Persian and Russian border of Turkey in Asia, on the shore of the beautiful lake which bears the same name.

As the representatives of the American Board of Foreign Missions, we are carrying on an educational and evangelistic work here, and we are glad to testify that such an institution as is suggested in the accompanying paper would be exceedingly helpful both to our work and th the community at large. The mission circle would cheerfully pledge themselves to superintend any institution which might be founded here, whether in the construction of buildings or furnishing them, or seeing that they were kept running according to the wish of the founder.

We would refer to the officers of our Board to vouch for us.

In behalf of the members of our mission station, I remain

Your's most respectfully

Van, Turkey in Asia, March 13th. 1903.

G. C. Raynolds.

Van, Mar. 12, 1903.

Rec'd Apr. 25.

To the philanthropist and benefactor Mr. Carnegie.

Beloved Sir.

You do not know us, but we know you. because you are noted for your kindness. We believe that as the news-papers publish day by day your benefactions to the needy, similarly the angel spirits in heaven give good tidings of joy to the redeemed souls. celebrating your amiable virtues:

May God bless you. and keep you healthy and happy.

We the undersigned, bring befor you the Oriental world, under the Turkish rule, on the eastern boundary of Asia Minor. the Armenian nationality which has from five to six thousand years of history, and whose central city is Van. and this city is nearly 4000 years old.

Undouptedly the past misfortunes and present extrem poverty and miserablness of this Christian people is known to you. through the news-papers. And we - who are teachers in the Missionaries of the American Boards educational institutions. approach you humbly in the name of one hundred thousand Armenian Christian people of our province, in the name of six thousand students and a hundred and fifty teachers of our city. to begs to pray. to inplore you. to grant us, strangers, remote, hungry and thersty for study and illumination, a little brook from your abounding river.

Beloved Sir. We are in need of your one hundred to five thousand dollars. Your hundred dollars would give us one small library of books. but the five thousand dollars would give us one central and proper building for a library. including the necessary books. and a central and proper building for a high School-room. with necessary apparatus. The library would profit almost 20 000 young Christians. and the School would illuminate 5 – 6000 Christian students continually and always.

If you want any particular information. we are ready to send it promptly:

Grant us Sir, our request. give help Sir to our educational poor condition. give books Sir to our needy people. immortalife Sir your name in the immortal hearts of our mortal bodies and in the stable monuments of our father land. because in our country remembrances live not for years but for hundred centuries.

Believe Sir our announcement. sympathife with our condition. help our instruction. and be sure that God will much approved your doings. because our need for instruction is not the need of a hungry. but of a famished one. which we present you.

May the Lord our God inspire in you a good disposition to contemplate this request.

May the Lord our God guide you to fill up the necessity of this far country.

May the Lord our God. recompence you with that holy satisfaction which you will enjoy. when we dedicate to your name the establishments of instruction and library. which will be erected by your charity.

Accept the full assurance of our deep respect and sincere love.

We remain in hope and expectation of your gratifying answer.

May the Lord our God inspire in you a good disposition to contemplate this request.

May the Lord our God guide you to fill up the necessity of this far country.

May the Lord our God, recompence you with that holy satisfaction which you will enjoy when we dedicate to your name the establishments of instruction and library, which will be erected by your charity.

Accept the full assurance of our deep respect and sincere love.

We remain in hope and expectation of your gratifying answer.

The teachers of the American Board's Missionary schools in Van.

Van 14 March 1903

[illegible]	H. N. Shaljian	[illegible]	H. S. Tarpinian
[illegible]	H. Kalpantian	[illegible]	Gherant N. Shaljian
[illegible]	H. Baghdasarian	[illegible]	G. H. Shaljian
[illegible]	Z. H. Shaljian	[illegible]	S. M. Jamkochian
[illegible]	A. A. Jutungian	[illegible]	Peter S. [illegible]
[illegible]	T. Ghazarian	[illegible]	S. M. Mekhigian
[illegible]	E. Ghazarian	[illegible]	Anna Shagoian
[illegible]	H. A. Husian	[illegible]	M. D. Sarkisian
[illegible]	C. Kersesian	[illegible]	K. [illegible] Kurkelian
[illegible]	C. Manugian	[illegible]	Hob. Adomian
[illegible]	B. D. Mousesian	[illegible]	C. A. Hussian
[illegible]	S. C. Kersesian	[illegible]	A. H. Ghazarian
[illegible]	A. H. Pehrgian	[illegible]	G. Haroutiounian
[illegible]	S. Ghazarian	[illegible]	H. C. Crozian
[illegible]	E. Mouradian	[illegible]	A. Shagoian

Native teachers - Van
to Mr. Carnegie
Mar 14 - 1903

65

Letter from Van Native Teachers
to Mr. Carnegie.
Van, Mar. 14, 1903.

Rec'd APR 27 1903

Van, March 21st. 1903.

Ans'd APR 30 1903

Dear Dr. Barton,

Your favor of Feb. 3rd. came this week, and we are very glad to know that Miss Norton is actually appointed, and so a few words about her route. If it were possible for her to reach Trebizond in June, she could return to Erz. with Mr. Stapleton when he goes on with Miss Lord, and then come on to Van with the mission meeting party, and this would be a most desirable arrangement. But this seems quite out of the question, and so we must think farther. Erivan is so much nearer and more easily reached from here than anyother R.R. or Str. station, that it seems desirable for her to come that way. We understand that Mr. Shedd of the Oroomiah station expects to come out this summer or fall, and it would seem that this gave the best opportunity for her. She should keep us informed of her movements so that we can know when she will reach Erivan, or the R.R. station nearest to it, an and then we can determin whether it is best to meet her there, or whether she had best go on to Oroomiah. It is possible that Mr. McDowell may be going on to attend the annual meeting and then return, and that so a separate trip might be avoided, but this is too far in the future to decide upon. If there were not this chance, it is possible that Dr. Ussher's druggist, now studying at Cons'ple. may be thro in time to come on next Aug. or Sep. and she might possibly come on comfortably with him, but this is quite too indefinite to depend on, as in the natural course of affairs he would continue his course another year.

You will be glad to know that our good friends in England, the Misses Mayo, have arranged to send us sufficient help to enable us to care for our village evangelists for this year, and you may be sure we are profoundly grateful to them and to the Lord who puts it into their hearts to do it.

We shall be very glad if Mr. Riggs can come on to attend the mission meeting here this summer, and we are hoping that we may have all the sta-

tions represented, but have no information on the subject as yet.

I inclose with this a copy of the financial report of the orphanage work. It has been thus delayed because the person who could do the auditing of the assistant treasurer's accounts was so full of work already, that he could only work a little on that each week. The large expens on land and building for the German dormitory makes the running expense o the orphanage exceed that of the previous year, but really the relative de crease of expense is about the sa e as that of the children, since there are two or other items which need explanation. Expense for sick children is a new item, since Dr. Ussher has mainly cared for them hitherto from his hospital fund, but with his building and other expenses he did not fee he could do so this year. Wages of employes is also larger because we had before used a part of relief funds to care for those who were able to make some return by working on the premises, and we have also been obliged to ch arge more of the expense for teachers to the orphanage.

Our snow blockade continues and is not likely to lift for some weeks yet, and mails are very much behind, and caravans do not attempt to run.

Wife joins in heartiest greetings for yourself and family and all ou other friends at the rooms, and I remain

Your's most sincerely

G. C. Raynolds.

Rec'd MAY 12 1903 Ans'd JUN 13 1903 67

Van, March 31st. 1903.

Dear Dr. Barton,

I am rather ashamed to send you another of these big letters, for I confess it does not seem to me very suitable of hopeful to send it, but our people have got their hearts set on sending the letter, and if I refuse it will make bad feeling, and so I consent to forward it, but you are at liberty to do what seems to you wise to do about delivering it to the party to whom it is addressed, or not. I leave it in your hands.

I inclose a copy of our annual station report, and am sending the other view to the mission Sec. this week. I suppose you do not care to have any copy of that sent to you direct, but prefer that the Sec. should combine those of all the stations and forward together.

Yesterday the Vali received a wire from Cons'ple. asking about our schools and educational work, and we are hoping that it may mean that the demands of our government for placing our work on an equal footing with that of other nations is being accepted and acted on. We wish we knew just what course to take regarding the church building which we so much need, and for which we hope funds might be found, whether to apply for local permit for a building, without designating for what purpose it is to be used, or to put in a formal application for a church building. The fact that our Protestant community is not formally set off as a separate community might make if more difficult to secure a permit, while if the demands are granted, it may be possible to secure it for ourselves as missionaries.

We are interested in the proposition to make next week a week of special prayer for missions, as mentioned in the March Herald, which came yesterday, and I hope we can have a share both in the praying and the receiving. I am sorry to say that the Feb. Herald failed to reach us, tho being addressed to the Consul, we might have hoped it would not be confiscated. The Peloubet's Notes came last week, but the censor had opened it and sent

strict orders to the P.M. to cut out two leaves before delivering to a
cause, forsooth, they contained pictures of Moslems at prayer!

We are thinking much of the company now about starting on its wa
Africa, and we hope and pray that Dr. Smith and his wife, if she goes, an
sister and the Ransoms and the other members of the party may be pros
ed in all the journey, and that the visit of the delegation may be as
ful as was your's to India. When will it fall to the E.T.M. to recei
such a delegation? Some hope is held out to us that we may have a v
from Prof. and Mrs. J.R. Harris of Cambridge, Eng. this summer, and we hope
they come, they may time their visit so as to attend our mission meeti
We have no encouragement as yet to hope for any delegates to this mee
from the western stations however.

Wife joins in kindest regards to yourself and family and to the
or friends at the rooms, and I remain

Your's most sincerely

G. C. Raynolds

Nov. 21, 1903

This is to certify that the names affixed to the accompanying paper are those of teachers in our schools, and that we consider the objects which it presents to be worthy and useful objects, which we should be very glad to see realized.

We also promise that if anything is given for such purposes we will use our best endeavors to superintend the work, and secure that the money is used in the most efficient and faithful manner to effect the object for which it is given.

In behalf of the missionaries belonging to the Van Station of the Eastern Turkey Mission of the American Board of Commissioners for Foreign Missions.

Van, March 31st. 1903.

G. C. Raynolds.

To the philantropist and benefactor Mr. J. Pierpont Morgan.
Native pastors to J. P. Morgan

Beloved Sir:

You do not know us, but we know you, because you are noted for your kindness.

We belive that as the news-papers publish day by day your benefactions to the needy, similarly the angel spirits in heaven, give good tidings of joy to the redeemed souls, celebrating your amiable virtues.

May God bless you, and keep you healthy and happy.

We the undersigned, bring before you, in the oriental world, under the Turkish rule, on the eastern boundary of Asia Minor, the Armenian nationality, which has 5-6000 years of history, and whose central city is Van. This city nearly 4000 years old.

Undoubtedly the past misfortunes and present extreme poverty and miserablness of this Christian people is known to you through the news-papers. And we who are teachers in the educational institutions of the missionaries of the American Board, approach you humbly in the name of 100 000 Armenian Christian people of our province, in the name of 6000 students, and 150 teachers of our city, to beg, to pray, to implore you, to grant us, strangers, remote, hungry and thursty for study and illumination, a little brook from your abounding river.

Beloved Sir, We are in need of your one thousand to ten thousand dollars. Your one thousand dollars would give us, one central and proper building for a library, including the necessary books, and help to our evangelical work, and the ten thousand dollars would give us, a central and proper building for a high school room, with necessary apparatus. The library would profit almost 20 000 young Christians, the evangelical work would profit 100 000 nominal Christians, and the school would illuminate 5-6000 Christian students continually and always.

If you want any particular information, we are ready to send it promptly.

Grant us Sir, our request, give help Sir, to our poor educational condition, give books sir to our needy people immortalize Sir, your name in the immortal hearts of our mortal bodies, and in the stable monuments of our father land, because in our country remembrances live not for years, but for hundred centuries.

Belive Sir, our announcement, simpathize with our condition, help our instruction, and be sure that God will much approved to your doings, because our need for instruction is not the need of a hungry but of a famished one, which we present you.

May the Lord our God, inspire in you a good disposition to contemplate this request.

May the Lord our God, guide you to fill up the necessity of this far country.

May the Lord our God, recompence you, with that holy satisfaction, which you will enjoy, when we dedicate to your name the establishments of instruction and library, which will be erected by your charity.

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We remain in hope and expectation of your gratifying answer.

The teachers of the American Board's Missionary schools in Van.

Van, March 27 1905 B. N. Comb H. K. Shalgian H. U. Yovsepian H. S. Tarpinian

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We remain in hope and expectation of your gratifying answer.

The teachers of the American Board's Missionary schools in Van.

Van, March. 27 1905

[illegible]	H. K. Shaljian	[illegible]	H. S. Tarpinian
[illegible]	H. Nalbandian	[illegible]	Gherant K. Shaljian
H. Baghdasarian		[illegible]	Capriel [illegible]
[illegible]	H. Husian	[illegible]	G. M. Jamkochian
[illegible]	E. Ghazarian	[illegible]	Simeon M. Khigian
[illegible]	A. Intunjian	[illegible]	Peter S. Mkhigian
[illegible]	S. Shaljian	[illegible]	G. H. Shalgian
[illegible]	A. Ghazarian	[illegible]	B. D. Sargisian
[illegible]	T. Ghazarian	[illegible]	R. A. Husione
[illegible]	E. Manugian	[illegible]	Hohaness Adomian
[illegible]	B. S. Mosessian		
[illegible]	S. Bedrosian		
[illegible]	Anna Shagroian		
[illegible]	A. Hasopian		
[illegible]	Elizabet		

March 31, 1903.

Rev. Geo. C. Raynolds, M.D

Jan. March 31, 1903

enclosing Document to

Mr. J. Pierpont Morgan

Rec'd JUN 8 1903

Van, May 7th. 1903.

Dear Dr. Barton,

Ans'd JUN 19 1903

Your favor of March 13th. was waiting my return from a brief trip to Khoi, Persia, which I desire to report to you. Our good friends, Prof. and Mrs. Harris, began their trip thro Asia Minor from the Van end, but not being just informed as to the state of the roads, were a little premature in reaching Erivan, and while waiting there, Mrs. H. was taken sick, and they wired me to meet them at Khoi, if possible, and so I started out April 13th. in considerable doubt as to whether horse could get thro, but tho there was much snow, water and mud, we made the 32 hours to Khoi in four days, very comfortably. The Vali was so kind as to give me a zabtieh for the round trip, and we had no trouble or anxiety from Koords, or officials, and on the return journey the roads were dry and good. Mr. Heazel, of the Anglican mission, was my companion going, an arrangement mutually agreable, and we went to the German orphanage, where we were most cordially recieved, and hospitably entertained. The Harrises did not reach there till Sunday evening, and Mrs. Harris's health was the only drawback to the pleasure of the trip. She is now much improved, tho not yet entirely well, and we are very greatly enjoying their visit. They are planning to move on a week from next Monday, to Bitlis, and Harpoot, by the direct road, via Moosh and Palu, if possible, and later visit Malatia, Oorfa, and some places in the Central Mission. This trip did me lots of good, and as it came just during the Easter vacation, did not interfere much with my school work, tho I have been rather overborne by the pressure of accumulated work since my return.

It now seems very hopeful that there may be a mission meeting this summer, tho there are as many ideas regarding the time as there are stations to be r-presented, indeed I think more than that.

How the question will be finally decided, remains to be seen.

Thanks for your suggestion regarding sending out reports and circulars about the orphanage, and I quite coincide with your opinion, indeed, I have had the same idea somewhat indefinitely in mind before, and I think that after this I will not have any more reports printed, but try to send them out myself from here. I have not heard from my last report, and I am a little afraid that it never got thro to Cons'ple, and so has not been printed.

I have already writen you about Miss Norton's coming, and trust you have received the letter long ere this.

We are feeling that we ought to call in another class for instruction, such as we had for two years, before very long, but at present, our force would not atall permit us to accomplish this, and this I would present as an additional reason for sending us a good man as soon as one can be found.

We are praying much for the party on their way toward Africa, that the Lord may care for them all the way and make the visit of the deputation a very great blessing.

Wife joins in kindest greetings to yourself and family and our other friends at the rooms, and I remain

Your's most sincerely

G. C. Raynolds.

P.S. Rejoice with us that the Lord has given to our dear friends, the Harrises, the ability and inclination to wipe out the debt on the hospital by giving us a check for Ls 300. just the amount which was needed to complete the provision for the expense, and so my money is still at liberty to be used for other things.

During this week we have been making a special effort for the good of our church members. For five evenings sectional meetings, in as many different neighborhoods, were held, and this, Sat. morning a general meeting for the whole church, in which the evidences of the Spirit's presence were very marked, and we hope a deep and permanent work may be accomplished for the church members.

Wains Nt Cay
Feb 6 1900

JUN 8 1903

Translation of a letter of Bn.Hachhadoor Kooroozian, to Miss Mayo.

Van, May 8th

JUN 19 1903

My dear Benefactor, Miss Mayo,

I received your letter of April 11th. with the fountain pen, and want to tell you a little about one of my evangelistic tours this winter. Of course you know that Lent is a sacred fast of our nation, and as those days are not suitable for agricultural work, they are appropriate times for the people to think about spiritual things. But unfortunately the people can not secure a spiritual uplift in those days, because they are ignorant, unable to read and write, and have not men of ability to guide them. So I did not wish to lose this opportunity, and went to those, who in great need, were waiting for me. I spent forty days in the villages, especially in those villages where, despite the letters of the vice-Catholicos of Akhtamar, forbidding it, they invited me to speak in their churches. God granted me great success, enabling me to preach 26 times in 7 villages. and to translate the Gospel from the ancient language into the modern, the doing which in the churches is entirely forbidden to the laity. Besides this I was able to speak in the village where we have a chapel as a centre for one of our evangelists. It is easy to imagine people who have great need of comfort in any way, when they hear about the wonderful love of Christ in a language they can understand, being very earnestly desirous of hearing more. In every village we have visited we have found people who have listened with tearful eyes, as thirsty and hungry for the Word of God, and they were not willing to give us up at our departure, but besought us to stay longer, or soon to return to them again. I believe, as I have often prayed that God will not leave His word fruitless, but will make it fruitful to the salvation of immortal souls. During this evangelistic tour, I took one of our evangelists with me, but at one village, because of their great need, and at the wish of a converted friend, I left him there while I made a tour of 5 days. He preached every day in the old church, and it was easy for him tomake his sermons practical because there was no priest there. Putting away the fear and shame of men, people were standing on their feet to confess that they had accepted Christ as their personal Savior. Every day the Holy Spirit witnessed with our spirits that He was doing this work, and He himself was using us. Often those who at first did not wish us to speak to them, afterwards earnestly besought us to talk with them, and they were showing a great interest in the Word of God. I remember many and good thoughts which were given to me thro the Holy Spirit in those days, wh which were useful both to me and to the people and to many priests. Especially their desire to copy them caused me to give humble praise and thanks to the Lord, the fountain and source of strength, wisdom and power. There are many things to remember, but I can write but few of them. Once a young man was taken sick, and Dr.Ussher was asked to see him in his village, but when he came he had to tell him that before many days he would die, since he would not permit him to make a needed operation. Afterwards Dr.Ussher and I with my companion and the priest of the village, who is a thoroughly converted man, talked with this young man, and I am glad to say that God's Spirit took hold of him more than five days before his death, and he met death with full courage, giving his last farewell, and speaking earnestly about the love and salvation of the Lord Jesus Christ. He left a young wife and little boy, but the influence of his death was very great in the village and on his relatives and friends. All were obtaining their comfort from the Bible and were asking us to stay with them some days. I confess that the young man was braver than we in the time of his agony.

JUN

Once I met a family in a village whose only son was sick, and nobody was sure about his recovery. The mother was a converted woman, but the fa- who isa teacher in the village, was not. At last the father felt that the son's sickness was the voice of God to him. When I saw the boy, I describ- ed his condition to Dr. Ussher, medicine was soon sent, and little by little the boy recovered. Once, when I was praying with the father in the fields his appearance indicated that a deep influence was exerted on him. At one time I was travelling with a priest and a young man, and we felt moved twice to sit down on the road, silently to hear God's voice, the priest was a con- verted man, and was adoring the grace of God, and the young man was caught by Christ, tho I do not know about his present condition, but I hope he will be saved and not snatch himself out of the Lord's hand.

A Vartabed, during his preaching tour, when he had considered the great influence of our sermons, tho he had been a great persecutor, but an educat- ed man, called me and confessed that our work is of God, and when he return- ed to Akhtamar, he expressed his admiration and surprise to the other var- tabeds. A priest, taking with him a supposed relic of some saint, was wan- dering among the villages, begging money, corn and other things from the peo- ple, and he told the people many false stories concerning the Protestants. I met him at a village, and the next morning, without saying thing, I went to read my Bible silently. The priest and the people became silent, and were watching me attentively, expecting to hear something, but I continued to read in silence. At last they exclaimed, Are you reading only for yourself, do you care nothing for us? Oh! no, I answered, I am ready to read to you if you wish to listen. Then we began to search the Bible about salvation thro Jesus Christ, and his office as intercessor in Heaven. Their preju- dices were removed, and the priest who was more familiar with books of tra- dition than with the Gospel, was surprised and was working and trying to keep all in his mind. The result was that this priest himself asked me to preach in the church, and thanked me for doing so. I could fill a long letter with stories like these.

Now I will pass to tell you that Satan is not entirely indifferent to the success of God's work, and he has his officers and their church doors were closed against me, and I did not try to go to these places, because six villages still remained unvisited, where there was an open door for me, but Easter came, and now men are too busy with work in the fields to admit of such work except with individuals.

In one village there was a man who had asked money from Dr. Reynolds, tho he was the richest man in the village, and because this was refused, he tried to prevent me from speaking in their church, but the people were so anxious to hear that they listened attentively and with tearful eyes. Af- terwards he went and complained to the XXXXX vice-catholicos at Akhtamar, who does many barbarous things, and he called the priest of that village and imprisoned him on the island, leaving his family in great need, and his land uncultivated, but I believe that this priest will remain firm in his faith, for he is a man absolutely surrendered to the Lord, while at the same time he is more faithful to the old church than are the vartabeds, and tries in all things not to be a stumbling block to his people, but is accustomed to study and search his Bible every day, and is growing thereby. He makes ve- ry effective and wonderful prayers, and is an absolutely surrendered Chris- tian, and this is why he is persecuted. It is evidently the purpose of the vartabed thus to get revenge on this, and to deter other priests from re- ceiving us. A graduate of our school was invited to be a teacher in a

ge. Arsen vartabed, the vice-catholicos, opposed it very strongly, but in vain, since the villagers accepted him, and he continues his work. The people have already understood the vartabed's immoral life, and do not trust him. Only those are in sympathy with him who hate the light, and exhortations and sermons, and even dishonor God's will and his book, that they may continue their evil courses.

The persecution is being pressed with great vigor where ever our friend are found, and they are subjected to violence and beating and all kinds of wrong with no protection, but the truth finds ever increasing reception, God's kingdom goes on with power, while satan's angels vigorously oppose, as we see openly and distinctly. But who does not know that God's kingdom, the Gospel and Jesus Christ will rule over all souls.

Most heartily do I praise the Lord who has counted me worthy to work in his kingdom, and grants such success to his work thro his unworthy servant. My fellow evangelists also have done good work in their fields, and could tell very nice stories of their work. One of them has acted as interpreter for Mr. Campbell this winter and went with him to Bitlis. Another has made great spiritual progress this winter, and has worked earnestly in Hargatsore.

My own and my companions' experience is that, in a way, our salaries are a curse to us, because men say that we work for the sake of our salary and not for the love of immortal souls, and in this way they cause others to be offended about us. I have often tried to find some way by which I might live and work for souls without receiving a salary, but as yet, God has not guided me to any solution of the problem. Of course God wishes some to serve him by means of their money, and others by working for the progress of his kingdom, so that no one shall be deprived of a chance to cooperate with him. His blessed will and plan be accomplished.

I close my letter by making known my deep and sincere thanks for that nice fountain pen, which you sent for me. I thank you for all your kindness and help in my work, which is God's work, in this poor and needy country. I believe that we shall see many souls in heaven for whom Christ will reveal to us his joy and they too will praise the Lord for their salvation.

Accept kind regards from myself and my family, and believe me

Your's most sincerely

(Signed) Hachadoor Kooroozian.

This letter is writen as a report of his work, to Miss Mayo, who with her sister, so kinaly support him, and it was translated by Pr. Vogheazar Bashdonian, the young man who has been working with Mr. Campbell, and I have duplicated it in copying, so that a few other friends might learn of the work at the same time.

Your's most sincerely

G.C.Raynolds.

copy of this motion sent to Mr. Hopkins
Springfield to be forwarded to Longmeadow
Springfield.

Rec'd JUL 23 1903

Van, June 30th. 1903.

Ans'd OCT 10 1903

Dear Dr. Barton,

I am too busy to write at length today, but it seems to be due you to let you know what the situation here is, as possibly you may have some unnecessary anxiety about us. We understand that various reports have been published in various papers stating that there was disturbance in this vilayet, battles between Koords and revolutionists, and I know not what. Allow me to say that the only information we have of such occurrences comes from such outside sources. All is quiet in these parts, and we are at a loss to know from what source, or for what purpose, these persistent reports are sent out. Apparently from this cause, Mr. Peet and our Minister have advised Harpoot to postpone the meeting, a fact which only yesterday came to our knowledge. I called on our British V. Consul and on our good Vali, and both said very emphatically that they saw no reason whatever for postponing, and the latter most willingly promised to send word to the authorities along the line of travel that such travellers were expected to pass, and they were to take special pains to secure their comfort. On the strength of this we wired Harpoot as follows. "All quiet, Erzroom and Bitlis coming. Have been assured travel as safe as usual." We wait to know what effect this will have on them. We are very anxious to have a meeting, but it would be a very great disaster if its expense should have to come out of the appropriations for general work. Personally, I think we shall try to bear our own share of the expense ourselves, but whether others will be able to do so or not is quite another question.

You will be glad to know that Dr. Ussher has been using his hospital for several weeks already, and that it is now almost finished. Also you will be glad to know that the foundation has been laid for a new church building, which we have pretty good reason to expect we shall be permitted to finish without objection on the part of the government. We hope that the people will be able to pay about half of the expense, and I am planning

to care for the rest from my indemnity money, released from the hospi
the generous gift of the Harrises.

We are in the midst of examinations now, but the graduation exer
are to be postponed till the meeting assembles, to be held in connect
with the exercises commemorative of the 25th. anniversary of the begi
of our educational work.

It is time to put up the post, and so I must say good bye and s
myself, with kindest regards from wife and self to you and your's

Your's most sincerely.

G. C. Raymond.

Rec'd AUG 26 1903

Van, July 24th 1903.

Ans'd OCT 10 1903

e Friends,

Nearly six months have passed since I last sent out a circular ter, telling of what is going on here in Van, and it is now time to tell the closing of our school year, and other things which have occurred ce Feb. In the early spring we enjoyed a memorable visit from our g time benefactors and friends, Prof. and Mrs. Rendel Harris, recently of ridge University, Eng. Owing to the lateness of the opening of the as in these high altitudes, their journey from Eriwan, Russia, was a pret- severe one, and on account of Mrs. Harrises sickness, I went as far as i, Persia, to meet them, and this, with a three days' absence to take them, the cart, one day's journey on the way to Bitlis, gave me a very pleasant ting. The opportunity of making the personal acquaintance of these long ued friends was most highly prized, and the Van hospital will ever have asion to remember their generous gift of Ls 300, toward the erection of s new building. I am happy to report that the hospital is now practi- lly completed, and has been occupied for several months.

The new building for the use of the girls whom our kind German friends e for has also been occupied since the early spring, tho the plastering the walls, within and without, was postponed till the vacation, when the ls went to their summer quarters at S. Krekore, and this too is now near- completed. These buildings add very greatly to our facilities for car- ng on the medical work, including the care of sick orphans, and to the mfort of the orphan girls, and of Miss Patrunky, their loved superintendent

The summer term of the schools closed July third, the examinations of e different departments having been going on during the previous two eks. These examinations gave very satisfactory evidence if faithful rk done by both teachers and pupils, and assured us that our labors in ese lines are not in vain. As it was anticipated that a meeting of e mission would be held here about the middle of July, it was decided to stpone the graduating exercises for two weeks, and hold them in connec- on with the celebration of the twenty-fifth anniversary of the opening our educational work, after the friends should assemble. Owing however objections made by the central Turkish Govt. the cause of which is still xplicable to us, the meeting was not held, but the members of the mission circle at Erzerum came on to take their vacation here, and we were ve- thankful for their presence to give eclat to the occasion. We have this begun the erection of a building for religious and other services, but it is not yet completed, we have no room large enough to accommodate the npany we wished to invite, and so we stretched a large awning over half the orphanage play-ground, under the shade of which, on the day appointed ut two thousand people gathered for the exercises, which opened at 9 A.M. The first session was given to hearing the essays of the graduating asses, except a few which were deferred for the final session. In the ls' school, the graduating class consisted of eleven members, six of whom e from the orphanage, while from the boys' school there were eight grad- tes, five of them from the orphanage. The remainder in both schools e day pupils. All the graduates acquitted themselves very creditably, th in the matter of their essays and in their manner of reading them. tho course, it was more than could be expected that they should all make mselves heard by all of the two thousand gathered.

After a short recess, the second session began, commemorative of the ginning of the educational work of the station. It is just twenty five ars since the girls' school was opened, in a very modest way, and in the e of many difficulties. Two very interesting papers were read, one pre- ed by Mrs. Raynolds, under whose auspices the school was first opened, and e other by the first Armenian teacher, telling of the difficulties which et the work at the outset, especially from the unwillingness of parents ls to send their girls from the paternal roof for an education, and of very modest way in which the work was begun, and some of the steps were tailed by which it had gradually grown to its present proportions, ac- modating within its walls some 300 girls and having sent out 48 graduates f classes, besides the many hundreds who have received instruction with- out completing the entire course of study. Two graduates have died.

Greetings were read from several of the former teachers in the school who are not now connected with the mission, while the presence of a large number of former pupils testified to their continued interest in the institution. An interesting paper was also read by one of the teachers in the boys' schoolhimself a graduate of the same institution, telling of the small beginnings and gratifying progress of that institution, which has sent out 76 graduates, in 12 classes, 60 of them being now residents of Van, while 11 are scattered in America and other places, and 5 have died.

A statement was given of the plan formed for making the commemoratio more permanent thro voluntary contributions from the graduates and other friends, which may be used in three ways, viz. the furnishing of needed apparatus for the schools, this part having been committed to the friends who are now in America, while those here in Van are trying to establish a reading room for the use of the male graduates and other friends who may care to join the institution and secure its benefits, while for the female graduates, it is planned to furnish opportunities for mutual improvement in various useful lines, such as care of children, knowledge of cooking, dress-making, etc, together with lectures on the care of the sick and other practical topics. About Lt 30, were reported as already raised for these purposes in Van, while it is not time for reports of what may be realized in America. Several outside friends, including the acting Arashnort, or political head of the Armenians, gave pleasant testimony to the usefulness of the educational work which has been and is being done by these institutio but the time assigned for this session proved all too short for the saying of all that was desired.

His Excellency, Tahir Pasha, the esteemed Vali of Van, with other officials, and the members of the Consular Corps were invited for 2 P.M. and with their coming began the third session of the day's exercises. The es says of two members of the girls' graduating class and three from the boys had been reserved for this place. The subject of one of the girls' essa was their class motto "Looking unto Jesus", while the other gave their valedictory. One of the boys read a Turkish essay, another had an English essay, "Apostrophe to Lake Van", which contained much of descriptive and histo ic interest, and was very creditably delivered as an oration, as was also the paledictory of the third member. His Excellency, the Vali, kindly consented to distribute the diplomas, and the exercises closed with short addresses from the teachers to the graduating classes, especially emphasizing the boys' motto, "Saved to Serve."

After the literary exercises were thus finished, an official receptio was held in a large room adjoining, while the female graduates gathered in another room for quiet reminiscences by themselves, and after this came the reception for the graduates of the two schools who were present. And so ended a very enjoyable but somewhat fatiguing day.

The awning was allowed to remain till the following Sunday, when, at the noon service, our preacher, Badvilly Sheranian received ordination at the hands of the four ordained missionaries who were present, Rev. Mr. Stern of the American Presbyterian Mission to Persia being one of them. The Sacraments of Baptism and the Lord's Supper were celebrated at the morning service. Probably a thousand persons were present at the noon service. We hope that the ordination of the pastor may be helpful to the work. It was a relief to feel that the whole occasion had passed off successfully, and we hope that its influence will be for the good of the work.

We are now planning our work for the coming year, and are hoping to locate three or four of the young men now just graduated from the orphanage as teachers in needy villages, where perhaps the people may be able to do but very little, at first, for their support. This we should be unable to accomplish with the funds our Board is able to grant us, but we are thankful that some of the kind friends of the orphanage in Germany and England are interesting themselves to thus increase and perpetuate the usefulness of that institution.

With best wishes for all our friends, and thanks for all their continued interest in our work, I remain Your's most sincerely

G. C. Raynolds.

Van, Turkey
Lt. 30.

Rec'd AUG 26 1903

Van, July 27th. 1903.

Ans'd OCT 10 1903

Dear Dr. Barton,

Your favor of June 30th. came to hand yesterday, and I hasten to reply. I inclose estimates for Van for the year 1904, which ought to have been made out earlier, but as we expected to have a meeting, we let it slip on and then when the meeting failed to materialize we were all busy and scattered, Dr. Ussher having gone to Artemid 2 1/2 hours away, and being a good deal under the weather, he does not often come up to give a chance for a station meeting. So, in desperation, last Sat. wife and I drove down there and talked up the subject of estimates, and today I have made them out to send tomorrow. This morning I was putting up some things to send to Artemid, and stooping and lifting, was siezed with a severe lumbago, a difficulty to which I am subject, so that it is with the greatest difficulty that I can even use my type-writer, and so the copy had some mistakes which I was obliged to correct with a pen. The purpose of the estimates is to show just what work we want to do, irrespective of the limit of appropriations, as we understand this to be your wish. Of course, if you give us the old limit, and we have to put up with the percent determined on some 10 a dozen years ago, only a small part of this work can be provided for from appropriations. I certainly think it probable that were the per-cent to be fixed now, it would be recognised that Van was entitled to a larger proportion than is now granted, but even then it would probably not suffice for all the work we have indicated. I am happy to say that friends in England and Germany have kindly interested themselves in both the evangelistic and educational work, so that, we hope to be able to carry out the program which the estimates indicate. Just now our people are giving pretty liberally for the new church building, and we hope their subscriptions will at least approach Lt 200. payable in two years. After this special effort,

I hope they will gradually assume a larger proportion of the usual running expenses of the work, tho we hope the work may continue to healthily expand so as to call f or considerably increased outlays beyond what the people can possibly provide for.

I have managed, with a good deal of difficulty, today, to finish the stencils and print a circular giving an account of the special exercises of the last few days, a copy of which I will send with this. I think it is the general feeling that all these special exercises passed off successfully. It was quite an undertaking to spread such an immense awning, but we use so much cotton cloth during the year, that we could lay in a good many pieces, and tho they were somewhat injured by the high wind that prevailed the day it was spread, the loss will be trifling. I hope we shall have a assembly hall which will make it unnecessary to repeat this experiment another year.

I think Dr. Ussher will write about plans for Miss Norton. Had she been ready to come with Mr. Shedd and his party on their way to Urmia, this would have been the best plan, but he is coming too early for her. Dr. Ussher is hoping for a visit from his brother, but that too will be before Miss Norton will be ready, I suppose. I hope we can make some arrangement to secure her suitable escort from Batoum. I am sorry to report that Dr. Ussher is pretty miserable just now, and I feel just a bit anxious lest some insidious disease is getting hold of him. His lungs and stomach are both troubling him, but I trust the main difficulty is that he is too tired. This is what is the matter with all of us, but it is not easy to see what we can do about it. I do wish we might hear that the family you are seeking was forth coming. I have writen to my cousin, Rev. Harry P. Schauffler, now settled at Berlin Ct. asking if he could not feel that the Lord was calling him to Van, but have no answer as yet. It is my opinion that he

work in nicely here were he to come.

I suppose Mr.Allen may be on his way toward Turkey by this time, according to a letter received today. Also a letter from my sister tells of the arrival of their party at their destination in Africa.

I am very sorry that the mission meeting failed to materialize, and from a note received today from Mr.Peet, I conclude that the difficulty was all due to the officiousness of Mr.Ojalvo, the American V.Consul at Erz. I feel exceedingly indignant over the affair, for I believe there was no occasion whatever for omitting the meeting. Certainly it seems a strange performance for him to undertake to interfere with the work of the missionaries without their consent. If he had consulted us here he would have learned that the stories afloat were entirely unfounded. If, after consulting with the missionaries, he had been unable to agree with their opinions, he might then have represented the case to the minister, but even then the missionaries should have had a chance to state their side of the case.

The Erzroom friends themselves came on despite his protests, and if Bitlis had done the same, we might at least have had a partial meeting.

Wife joins in very kindest regards to yourself and family and to the other friends at Boston, and I remain

Your's most sincerely

G. C. Raynolds.

I should have included acknowledgement of your favor of June 15th. I am not atall surprised that you did not think it wise to forward the letter to Mr.Morgan. I was sorry to bother you with it anyway, but felt that I could not refuse the request of the people to send it.

10 1 1 1

Ans'd NOV 16 1903

Ans'd NOV 20 1903

Van, Oct. 20th. 1903.

My dear Dr. Barton,

Yesterday's post brought your letter to Dr. Ussher, and as he is not here now, I will write you a few lines today, if possible before the post goes. You have learned before this that Miss McLaren does not plan to leave before spring, and perhaps by that time some one may be found for us, tho we can not hope for anyone who, like Miss Allen, would know the language and understand the work so as to take up the burden which Miss McLaren may be compelled to lay down.

Dr. Ussher might be improving this superb weather for his return trip, were it not that his brother was delayed. When Dr. left he did not hope that his brother would come, but since he left a wire has come from him saying that he was to start from Italy last Wed. and so I presume it can not be hoped that he will reach Batoum before the end of this week, and perhaps not so soon, and there is a possibility of snow coming at any time now.

You will be glad to know that the church building has got on nicely, with no interruption, and the walls are up, and the roof in place which protects it from the weather, and, as I understand secures it from Govt. interferance. We are most fortunate in our exceedingly friendly Vali, and his help is evident not simply in this sort of work. It is thro his kindness that we have been able to secure a foothold for village work, and this once gained, it is to be hoped that we can retain it. We now have three new centres pretty well established, and in each of them a preacher and teacher located, all of these workers being graduates from the orphanage and high-school. Opposition has not ceased, but I think the ecclesiastics are pretty much convinced that they will not be able to prevent our work. A year ago it was the decision of the ecclesiastics that none of the graduates of

of the orphanage might find places to teach in their schools, the result has been that we are finding places more than we can fill to place the boys in schools which the people wish to be under our supervision, usually hoping, indeed, that some pecuniary aid may be given them, but they also doing what they can. In this way several boys are located where they can and do spread the light among the people.

Another cause for gratitude; The good people in England and Germany who have become interested in the orphans, are now undertaking the support of this evangelistic work, which is the direct outgrowth of the orphanage work, and thus supplementing the funds of the Board, which would not have allowed us to spread out our tents to this extent. Indeed all this outside work is also outside the funds of the Board. Thus the Board is getting its pay for allowing its missionaries and buildings, etc. to help out this orphanage work.

That wind-mill has arrived, and made quite a sensation among the officials, who seemed to smell a whole battery of artilery in those dreadful boxes! What troubles me however is that the cost and expense of freight have mounted up so high, that I am afraid my indemnity will not suffice for this and the church together, but we will see.

We are most thankful that the Board was able to close the year without debt, but sorry that it came so near the border, and that there does not seem to be the upward tendency of contributions which is so much needed.

With kindest regards from wife and self for yourself and family, and our other friends, I remain

Your's most sincerely

G. C. Raynolds.

Trans. Ocd. 20, 1903 5

REC'D DEC 28 1903 73

Van, Nov. 30th. 1903.

Dear Friends.

I have at least three weeks' work pressing to be done this week, but I want to tell you about our thanksgiving while it is fresh in my mind, and so I will steal the time for a circular letter.

It was a devoutly thankful company which gathered at 4 P.M. last Thurs. in Miss McLaren's parlor for a thangsgiving service, which was conducted in the episcopal form by Rev. Sydney Ussher, and included a helpful sermon. There were present the six Americans who form the Van Station, one of whom, Miss Norton, joined us less than a month ago, but has already won a warm place in all our hearts, the three German ladies, Sisters Clara and Christa having come at the same time with Miss Norton, to help Miss Patrunky in the care of the orphans, Mr. Ussher and Miss Brinton, who came with the same party for a visit, Mrs. McDowell and her two boys, who are living near us, Mr. McDowell being absent in the southern part of their field, expecting to return in the spring, and Mr. Sterrett, also of the Urmia Station, who went out with Mr. ~~Sterrett~~ Mrs. Sterrett, but was compelled by ill health to return, and arrived during the service. The contrast between this large circle and the number we have usually been able to muster was of itself a very great occasion for gratitude. But the thing which most immediately called forth our gratitude and praise was the accomplishment, but a few moments before we assembled of a very heavy piece of work which had been occupying us for several days, and had caused us some measure of anxiety. This was the turning over into place of the tower for the new windmill. Most of you know that we are engaged in the erection of such a structure, and the machinery sent from America arrived only a few weeks since. The question of bringing water onto our premises, which has become essential since the orphanage has brought such a large number of persons within our compound, has been demanding a more satisfactory solution than the one first attempted with clay pipes, and it seemed that a windmil and pump would be on the whole the most feasible solution, and if a windmill were to be erected, it seemed wiser to have one that might accomplish several other works as well, and so we little by little enlarged our plans till we reached an order for a 20 foot wheel on a 75 foot tower, the latter to be erected here, while the machinery came from America. The specifications for the tower called for posts 8 by 8 inches square, with braces 6 by 6 inches, and tho the poplar timber we must use is stronger than the pine generally used at home, we did not like to make it lighter. Uncertainty regarding the arrival of the machinery, and our being busy with the church building prevented our laying in timber before hand and so we were obliged to use entirely green timber, which was more than twice as heavy as dry timber would have been, and at least three or four times as heavy as what is used at home. There seems no other way of erecting such a tower but by framing it together on the ground and then ending it up into place, but the enormous weight of such a structure made the work of lifting it extremely difficult and not a little dangerous, especially with our very inadequate appliances for the work. Imagine a frame 60 feet long, (the other 15 feet are added afterwards,) 19 feet square at the base and seven feet at the top, built of such heavy timber as mentioned ablve, and lying on its side. We had a pair of three wheel puppey blocks and steel rope left here by Drs. Lehmann and Belk, and we first erected a tripod about 35 feet high over the small end, and with these pulleys and levers we lifted it as far as this tripod would admit, without much difficulty, but here began the hardest work. With our pulleys and a windlass

we could command almost unlimited power, but neither the steel rope nor any chains we could procure were strong enough to draw the structure up from the direction of the foot, and both the rope and a chain were broken, so that we were obliged to raise it nearly the whole of the rest of the way by means of levers, and as it rose it became more and more difficult to work the levers as well as the following supports, and there was considerable risk involved, and so we had to work with extreme caution and so the whole job lasted from Sat. till the following Thursday. Towards the end the pulleys came into play again, as the angle decreased, and then the question was, should we be able to hold it back so as to let it down slowly, but this we were able to accomplish, so that it came down to its place as quietly and gradually as could be desired. A large concourse was present, watching the operation, and as it finally settled into its place, a tremendous shout and cheer rent the air, and when this subsided, the doxology was sung, and then, standing on a low roof, near by, the write offered a prayer of mosthearty thanks for the success which had attended the undertaking, at the same time dedicating the whole work to the service of Him who had enabled us to erect it. A merely temporary foundation had been erected for its reception, and this is now being replaced by a permanent one, laid in lime morter, and with thorough'y secure anchors at the corners, and if the weather continues such as to enable us to work, we have strong hope of placing the timbers which form the second storey and carry the wheel in their place this week. It is no small task for those unfamiliar with such work to study out how all the somewhat complicated machinery of such a geared mill is to be placed so as to be made to work satisfactorily, and in this and in allthe work of the affair, the help which Mr. Ussher has been able and willing to furnish us has been simply invaluable, and indeed I hardly know as we should have been able to accomplish it without him and so his coming was another large element in the gratitude which filled our hearts on that day. The erection of the tower completed, and the workmen were invited to partake of a good, square meal, followed by tea, and thus to share in our thanksgiving festivities. Our own party, after the service in the ladies' room, adjourned to Dr. Ussher's dining room, where Mrs. Ussher had spread an attractive table, the viands being furnished by Mrs. Raynolds and two delightful hours were spent in discussing them, Mr. Ussher's fund of entertaining stories adding greatly to the enjoyment. In the evening Mrs. Ussher finished the entertainment by passing ice-cream and cake, and so ended a thanksgiving which, for the writer at least, was one of the most memorable of his life.

Lest anyone should be stumbled by supposing that the funds of the Am. Board were used for this windmill, it may be as well to say that it is erected with the indemnity money which unexpectedly came to the writer, and whichhe had expected would prove sufficient tocover this expense as well as the missionaries' share of the cost of the new church building, but owing chiefly to the enormous cost of transportation from Treb. (Lt 160.) there will be a deficit before the church is finished. But we confidently believe that the Lord will, in some way, provide for this also.

Desperate efforts are now being made, by Arsen Vartabed and others, to stop our work in the villages, which has begun with such promise of success, and it is not yet evident what will be the outcome of the affair. We ask your prayers for all our work, and I remain Your's most sincerely

G. C. Raynolds

1.

Van, Dec. 1st. 1903.

My dear Dr. Baston,

I am too driven at the present time to write many letters, but I wanted to let my friends know what we are about here, and so I am going to ask that you will be so kind as to pass this letter along to the persons whose names are appended below, and will all those to whom it may come accept very kindest regards from wife and self, and best wishes for themselves at the holiday season which is so fast approaching, and believe

Your's most sincerely.

G. C. Raynolds.

Please let Mrs. Ingersoll and Dr. & Mrs. Smith read, and then Mr. Smith or his successor might send to the manufacturers of the mill.

FEB 6 1904
77
ANSWERED 1904

Van, Dec. 26th. 1903.

Dear Dr. Barton,

Your favor of Nov. 20th. came to hand last week, and was most welcome. I trust you have received a circular I sent you just after Thanksgiving, and now I send another, which will give the news up to the present time. You will see that the situation here is far from reassuring, and yet of such a nature that it is not possible to say very much about it. It sometimes seems as if the existence of the Armenians as a separate people was doomed. In Russia they are being compelled to give up their nationality, while those who emigrate to other coultries are doing the same voluntarily, and Turkey seems to be the only place where they can continue their national existence, and it looks as if they were preparing to securet their own extermination here. It is pretty hard to work for such a decaying people, but they needour help and sympathy, and to a certain extent are responsive to our efforts.

Mr. Ussher is helping us splendidly in bothmaterial and spiritual lines, and we are most grateful for his presence and assistance, but I have little idea that he would think of making this the place for a life work, and am not absolutely sure that he is just adapted for it. What arrangement they will make for the next stage of their journey is not yet apparent. The winter has been mild hitherto, but even now travel would not be over agreable, and it is not likely to improve for two months at least, and that will make it pretty late for travel in India next year.

We are all delighted with Miss Norton, and also with our German recruits, but we do need that new family very much, even aside from the consideration that wife and I can not be expected to hold on very many years more and that somebody should be in training to take our place.
We arethankful for good reports of Mr. Browne's health, and remain with best wishes for all friends Your's most sincerely G. C. Raynolds.

Jan. 2. Yesterday was our annual reception day & about 300 people called during the day.

Rec'd FEB 6 1904

Van, Dec. 26th. 1903.

ar Friends,

You may care for a few words concerning the present situation in
. Christmas passed pleasantly yesterday, the Americans gathering for a
ristmas tree at 8 A.M. at Dr. Ussher's house, Mrs. Ussher being down stairs
r the first time, to take part in the same, while the youngest daughter
emed to be enjoying the scene with the rest. During the day calls were
de on those in Van who observe this date, and at 4 P.M. we gathered for a
mmunion service, conducted by Rev. Sydney Ussher in the Episcopal form.
en followed a dinner together, the table being set by the Misses McLaren
d Norton, who are now well settled at house-keeping, the food being fur-
shed from the different houses., and the day passed very pleasantly.

Work on the windmill goes slowly forward, the well being now prepared
r locating the pump, by means of which it can be kept so clear of water
to enable the requisite enlargement at the bottom, for furnishing the
pected supply of water.

The condition of our village work is not all that we could wish. The
ople are ready to welcome our preachers and teachers, and indeed are im
rtunately asking for more than we can give. But Arsen Vartabed succeed-
l in getting the Govt. to close two of the schools, and now that we have
cceeded in securing a government order for their reopening, the ecclesi-
tics and the revolutionists are joining hands to prevent their continu-
ce. It seems to be a fact that a pretty active propaganda is now going
among the villages, on the part of the revolutionists, and the villagers
e said to be falling in with their ideas. This seems to be largely due
the fact that the poor villagers are becoming absolutely desperate, on
count of the terribly severe way in which taxes are being collected from
em, while the Moslems are not only not pressed for taxes, but are allowed
continue to oppress the poor Armenians. It would seem that there was
plan for some sort of a rising in the spring, and such a plan on the part
the revolutionists certainly gives a gloomy outlook for the future of
nation and of our work for them. At Nareg they have so terrorized the
ple that it is not certain that we shall succeed in getting the school
ened, because the poor people are actually afraid to act contrary to the
ests of these self-constituted guardians of the peace. The situation
us is a very delicate one. Our preachers and teachers are afraid for
ir lives if they take a decided stand against this movement, or even in
ending their own rights, and it is doubtless true that they have some
son for apprehension, and of course this village work can not be carried
without their agency. It seems lamentable indeed that we should be
hampered and hindered, now that we have men whom we can send to enlight
the people, and a govenor who is kindly disposed toward the work, while
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out-station of Agants, but have not fully decided about it.

Will all friends to whom this may come accept heartiest good wishes
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Their's most sincerely

G. C. Raynolds

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Will all friends to whom this may come accept heartiest good wishes
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Yours, etc. etc.

FEB 3 1904

Van, Jan. 9th. 1904.

ar Friends,

Allow me to write a circular letter today as I have not time to ite to each station separately today.

The thing which has especially occupied our thought during the last w days is a new arrangement into which we are entering with Arsen Varta-d, the Locum Tenens of Akhtamar, with regard to schools in his diocese. late he has taken a position of hostility to us and our work, which has mpelled us to start a separate work, and open separate schools, at the same me sending evangelists to different centres. Hr seems to have become nvinced that he would not be able to prevent this sort of work, and when came to the city a short time ago, Dr. Ussher sought an interview with m and had a very plain talk with him, and it finally came to the point at he was willing to resume the educational work on a basis of coopera-on, and cease his special opposition to the work of our evangelists and ook-sellers, we agreeing that our men should not seek to persuade men to ave the old church, but only try to lead them to accept the truth as found the Bible. So we are preparing a definite scheme for cooperative work sociating with ourselves a committee, to consist of 8 members, on our de Dr. Ussher and myself, with two assistant members of our selection, and the other side of Arsen Vartabed and one of the enlightened priests of e city, with two other assistant members of their selection. This Com. have the charge of schools throughout the diocese of Akhtamar. We hope t this arrangement will secure the opening of more schools than could done in any other way, and permit the teachers to teach the truth in them hold Bible classes, and work freely among the people. This is the a-eement, and it remains to be seen how completely it will be carried out. rding to this plan, we agree not to open separate schools, but we expect continue the work of our evangelists and book-seller, which Arsen Vart. ees not to oppose, tho of course he does not officially authorize it, or e preaching of our men in the churches. It seems as if we had been led to take this step by the Spirit, and we wait to see what will be the re-lt. Friendliness and harmony is better than war, if consistent with right

I tried during the past week to make a visit to Agants, and started out Tuesday, in a sleigh, Mr. Ussher going with me, but the falling snow and e accumulation on the road, made it impracticable to go on, and so we turn-backthe second day, much to our disappointment.

The condition of the city this winter seems to make it unwise to at-mpt general meetings in the evening, and so the meetings of the week of rayer have been held in the morning, and the attendance has been small, per-aps not enough to make it wise to continue them at present, and our expe-ience is that a better attendance can generally be secured during lent.

Thursday P.M. of this week, some 200 soldiers made a sort of mutiny, and ent to the house of their commander, but he refused to see them, and they ade some hostile demonstrations against some of their officers, beating two r three, and then did quite a lot of petty thieving from the people in the treets, and the next day the Armenians were afraid to open their shops, but oday I think they are open, and all is quiet, and I do not think any spe-ial apprehension is felt. This year we made New Year's our eception day, and about 300 callers came in during the day. The number f officials was considerably more than usual.

Winter seems now to have begun in earnest, with much snow and mercury below 0. Your's most sincerely

G. O. Raynolds

Van, Jan. 9th, 1904.

Dear Friends,

Allow me to write a circular letter today as I have not time to write to each station separately today.

The thing which has especially occupied our thought during the last few days is a new arrangement into which we are entering with Arsen Vartabed, the Doum Tenens of Akhtamar, with regard to schools in his diocese. Of late he has taken a position of hostility to us and our work, which has compelled us to start a separate work, and open separate schools, at the same time sending evangelists to different centres. He seems to have become convinced that he would not be able to prevent this sort of work, and when he came to the city a short time ago, Dr. Usher sought an interview with him and had a very plain talk with him, and it finally came to the point that he was willing to resume the educational work on a basis of cooperation, and cease his special opposition to the work of our evangelists and book-sellers, we agreeing that our men should not seek to persuade men to leave the old church, but only try to lead them to accept the truth as found in the Bible. So we are preparing a definite scheme for cooperative work, associating with ourselves a committee, to consist of 8 members, on our side, Dr. Usher and m self, with two assistant members of our selection, and on the other side of Arsen Vartabed and one of the enlightened priests of the city, with two other assistant members of their selection. This committee have the charge of schools throughout the diocese of Akhtamar. We hope that this arrangement will secure the opening of more schools than could come in any other way, and permit the teachers to teach the truth in the old Bible classes, and work freely among the people. This is the agreement, and it remains to be seen how completely it will be carried out. According to this plan, we agree not to open separate schools, but we expect to continue the work of our evangelists and book-seller, which Arsen Vart. has not to oppose, tho of course he does not officially authorize it, or the preaching of our men in the churches. It seems as if we had been led to take this step by the Spirit, and we wait to see what will be the result. Friendliness and harmony is better than war, if consistent with right.

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The condition of the city this winter seems to make it unwise to attempt general meetings in the evening, and so the meetings of the week of prayer have been held in the morning, and the attendance has been small, perhaps not enough to make it wise to continue them at present, and our experience is that a better attendance can generally be secured during Lent.

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Winter seems now to have begun in earnest, with much snow and measure below 0. Your's most sincerely

Van, Jan. 23rd. 1904.

Dear Dr. Barton,

Ans'd MAR 17 1904

May I send you a copy of the annual report which I am sending to our subscribers and friends, and with it best wishes for the new year for you and your's from us both.

There is a special matter about which I wish to speak. I wrote some time since to Longmeadow asking their permission to use their contributions to the orphanage the past year, toward meeting the expenses of laying the pipes etc. for distributing the water to the orphanage. Besides a contribution of $73.49 from the S.S. reported in Mr. Peet's Jan. statement, his June statement contained the following, "For work c/o Dr. G. C. Raynolds, from Benev. Association, 1st. C. C. Longmeadow, $93.71." May 27-1903 As this was credited to us in the monthly statement, I considered it a special, and passed it to the account of the Orphanage, but now Dea. Bliss writes that after my request came they wrote and asked you about it, and received the reply that this sum must go toward the general expenses of the station. Evidently there is some misunderstanding somewhere, since contributions for the regular expenses of the station only reach us thro the appropriations as credited in the S.A. accs; tho a notice of such contributions might have been sent that we might send acknowledgements to the donors. Please look up the matter and let us know what the case really is, and if we must take back the $93.71 which is now credited to the orphanage. If we had it to use for supplementing my indemnity in finishing up the water job, it would be very nice, but if it does not belong there, we will hope that need will be otherwise supplied.

We are sincerely grieving over the dreadful fire at Erz. and hope that it does not indicate an intention on the part of the Turks to get rid of all our work by similar means. I feel like pushing the work on the new church as fast as possible so as to get into it before any change of policy for the worse may come to hinder us. The negotiations with Arsen Vart

tabed, alluded to in the report, are not yet consummated. A verbal agr
ment had been reached, which I thought was pretty certain to be signe
the Com. to whom he passed over the work are trying to introduce modi
tions which we can not accept, and it is not yet certain how it will
So let no public mention of that clause of the report be made at pre

I presume you are informed of the new arrivals in the houses of
er, Stapleton and Underwood, but these new numbers hardly give us the
ing force we need, and so we beg you not to cease your efforts to fin
adult reinforcements for which we have been so long asking.

We are trying hard to get our church work into better shape, but
too soon to report results as yet, only I might say that some things
more hopeful than they were. We are hoping and praying for a bless

We are all trying to make the most of the vacation for calls an
the people, the ladies keeping up the work during the whole week, and
McLaren is talking of a visit to a village. I tried to get over to
during the week of prayer, but was driven back by the snow. This we
Ussher has gone to Bashkalla, 60 miles east of us, to see the sick kai
a nephew of the Vali, and such a journey is no sinecure at this seaso
The weather was fine the days he went and he got thro in two days, bu
the barometer is falling and gives some apprehensions about the retu

Mr. Ussher and Miss Brinton hope to start Bitlis-wards before ve
ny days, and we shall miss them, for Mr. Ussher is very useful here, bot
material and spiritual lines.

Wife joins in kindest regards to yourself and family and I remai

Your's most sincerely

G. C. Raynolds.

Rec'd MAR 7 1904
Ans'd MAR 17 1904

Van, Jan. 30th. 1904.

Dear Dr. Barton,

I send you herewith, by registered post, a package, with regard to which I wish to give you a little information. It was given as a contribution for the expense of the new church building, which we are erecting, and it is the judgement of the station that it had best be sent to you for sale, and so I wish to tell you about it. As you know, we have hitherto been obliged to use our boys' school room as a chapel also, and for a good while it has been very greatly overcrowded, and last summer we ventured to undertake the erection of a new church, with the understanding that the people were to be responsible for half of the expense, while we missionaries would endeavor to secure the other half. The people subscribed pretty liberally, and are doing well in collecting their subscriptions, but they are still considerably distant from having all they need. A few weeks ago, in one of his sermons, Mr. Sydney Ussher, who is now visiting his brother here, and is taking a most helpful part in the work, in many directions, gave some very helpful hints on the subject of giving. One of our female teachers came to me the next day saying that she was so touched by this sermon that she first determined to bring in at once the balance of her subscription, which she had expected to pay next year, and so gave me one lire Turkish, as this balance of her subscription, but she said this did not satisfy herself and she determined to bring a free will offering over and above her subscription, and on this account handed me two lires more, making her whole contribution four lires or $17.60. 3/9 of her year's salary. The following week it was determined to distribute little boxes among the people that those who wished might deposit contributions, large or small, until a meeting should be held for their collection. This gathering was held last Tuesday afternoon, and the chapel was crowded with people, donors and others, some literary exercises were held, and considerable music was given while the boxes were being collected and counted. A neatly folded package was noticed on the desk, and

examination showed it marked "Not to be opened in public", while on the other side was the following lines, neatly writen in English,

"Laid on thy altar Oh my Lord Divine,
Accept my gift this day, for Jesus sake,
I have no jewels to adorn thy Shrine
Nor any world-famed sacrifice to make,
But here I bring within my trambling hand
This, and my will - a thing that seemeth small,
And Thou alone, Oh Lord, canst understand
How, when I yield Thee these, I yield Thee all.
Take it Oh Father, take."

Later, when it was opened, this beautiful piece of hand embroidery was found, and it proved to be the gift of the same teacher, who, not content to have given so generously of her money, desired to give something else, something which she especially valued, and looking over her treasures, this which she had had the girls of the school work for her, and which she greatly prized, tho she had not yet had it made up, seemed to her the thing which would best prove her love to her Master and to His cause.

It is hoped that some one in America, who has means and would like to make use of such an article, may feel prompted to give perhaps more than its intrinsic value, in order to encourage the giver and help forward the cause, and so I send it to you to make what disposition you may see best.

I remain

Your's most sincerely

G. C. Raynolds.

Scott County 30/1904

REC'D MAR 7 1904

Van, Jan. 30th. 1904.

ANS'D MAR 17 1904

Dear Dr. Barton,

I think this envelope will let me add a few words about what the orphans are trying to do toward helping the new building.

When the notice was given that boxes would be distributed for contributions, the children wanted to have a share in the work, and as they had no money to give, it was suggested that they might give up one meat ration a week and use what was saved for this purpose. To this they enthusiastically assented, only begging that it might be two meals, and in this way they were able last Tuesday to bring in the substantial gift of 1240 Ps. silver, equals $ 50.97, which was about half of what was realized that day, aside from what was then paid on subscriptions already made. But the children are not content with this. The boys are divided into six companies, and there are six pillars in the new building, supporting the roof and galleries, and the boys have set their hearts on being able to provide for the expense of these pillars, and ask to be permitted to continue their self-denial once a week until they can effect this object. The boys thus acting the part of Samson, with improvements, - setting up the pillars of the house of the Lord instead of pulling down those of Dagon, the girls are asking to be allowed to use their share of the money for the expense of the windows, that they may take the rule of light-bearers for the congregation which is to assemble. I hope that the members of our congregation who have emigrated to America will feel like sharing in the expense of the church, and thus I have much hope that the people will be able to meet the half of the expense falling to their share.

The negotiations regarding the cooperation in village educational work, have met with some difficulties, as the Com. which Arsen Vartabed left to complete the work, tried to introduce some changes which we could not accept, but finally, after several conferences, we agreed upon a paper which we are willing to sign, and I presume Arsen V. will also sign, but then they must send it to the Patriarch and can not act upon it till he approves, and what view he may take of the question remains to be seen.

A good honest effort is now being made to bring our church into a better condition than it has been in for a good while, and the outlook is rather hopeful. Those members of the church who reside in the walled city have recently taken a start forward, and now consider themselves a separate church, and there is a good deal of earnestness manifested there. They have recently begun visiting the near village of Avants, where they find a good many willing to listen to the truth. On the whole, the present outlook is more encouraging than usual, and we thank the Lord and take courage.

Some apprehension is felt in political lines, as there is unwonted activity on the part of the revolutionists, and we hear of various plans for rising in the spring, but we hope such a disaster may be averted.

With love from wife and me for yourself and family and other friends, especially for Dr. Strong, to whom will you please extend our most hearty congratulations on his safe return from his long and arduous journey, I am

Your's ever most sincerely

G. C. Raynolds.

Van, Jan. 30, 1904

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Your's ever most sincerely

G. C. Montgomery

REC'D MAR 10 1904
ANS'D MAR 18 1904

Van, Feb. 6th. 1904.

Dear Dr. Barton,

I sent you a copy of my report the other day, but I would like to sendyou a few photos, first some which will show the windmill at different stages of its progress toward a perpendicular, and also a photo of one of my boys and his work, with my own picture thrown in. I will try also to inclose a letter for Miss Bush, as you will know where to send it to reach her. Mr. Ussher is hoping to start on his forward journey soon and we shall miss him very much. He is a strong man, and has done us lots of good in many lines. His sermons and talks have been very helpful, and he has given a series of lectures on teaching to the teachers, which have aroused much enthusiasm, and done much good. I hardly think he would have any idea of returning here for permanent work, and it is possible that he may lack the cooperative faculty a bit, but he has won all our hearts, missionary and native, and we would like to keep him longer.

The cooperation scheme moves slowly. Arsen Vartabed left a Com. to draw up a paper with us, for signature and submission to the Patriarch, but the Com tried to introduce some changes and it required several conferences to finally fix on a paper we were ready to sign. It is too soon to know what the outcome will be as yet.

I am glad to say that the church seems to be getting into better condition, and especially the branch in the city is quite wide awake and active, and is pushing into the near village.

By the way, our Missionary Herald is very irregular in reaching us. The numbers for Jan. May, Oct. Nov. and Dec. 1903 are missing, and none has come for this year. If the missing numbers could be so done up that it should not be evident where they came from, and addressed to Capt. E. G. Tyrrell, it is possible they might come thro, and always let them be so wrapped that it shall not be apparent what they are.

Yours most sincerely
G. C. Raynolds.

Rec'd MAR 28 1904

83

Van, March 24th. 1904.

Dear Dr. Barton,

Ans'd MAY 10 1904

Your most welcome favor of Feb. 17th. was waiting my return from a short visit to Agants, and I was delighted to know that the long looked for associate was appointed. Dr. Ussher wrote him by last post, and I have writen for the next post, and now I want to thank you and the Prudential Com. for the encouragement which we are thus receiving.

The question of residence now becomes a live one, tho it may probably be possible for us to arrange to board them for a while, but they will, of course, wish to keep house for themselves, before long. You know it was originally intended to have three families at Van, and three houses were accordingly erected, but when Mr. Scott returned to America, and it was not thought necessary to replace him at once, the girls' school took possession of his house, and is still using it. Three or four years ago some rooms were built in connection with our house, which we call "The annex," for orphanage use, expecting that a lady teacher would occupy the third storey in whole or in part, while the two lower stories are used for shops and store rooms for the girls. Now that the new German building is completed, the upper room is not in use for a lady, but one room, for which we paid, we use as a spare room. I suppose it would be somewhat cheaper to erect some other rooms for the shops, which would vacate this building, and inclose one room more on the roof of our present house, and make some slight other changes, than to build an entirely new residence. In such ways it might be possible to make this house answer for two families, especially as our family consists of but two persons anyway. We are getting on in years, and can not expect to hold on so very many years, and the other and younger members of the station will naturally assume more and more of the social duties, which demand more room, and naturally our

feeling is that they must increase and we must decrease, and we have felt that, if this were the desirable arrangement, we would be quite willing to take the rooms in the annex, and give a new family those we now occupy. If Van is to be permanently a three family station, as it seems to me would be desirable, this arrangement might not suffice for two large families. Should it be felt that it would be better to leave the orphanage the use of the rooms in question, and erect a new house, the purchase of some more land might be necessary. There is a small corner which naturally belongs to the hospital lot, which, if purchased, might allow a house to be erect d there, but it would be crowding things a little. A part of the lot purchased for the church is still vacant, but we have thought that something would need to be built before long to accommodate the girls' school, and there is some money in hand, willed for that purpose at Bangor, which may enable us to attend to this prospective need, by using that lot. There is a lot adjoining our old premises and the church lot, which it would be very desirable to secure possession of, and part of which is now rented for the orphanage. There are buildings existing on this lot which would suffice, with slight alterations for a missionary residence there. The station has, as yet, had no consultation on this subject, but I mention the matter for you to think of and let us know what would be your idea on the general subject. A good many buildings have been erected on our premises since we returned the last time, but at no expense to the Board, tho they are now considered the property of the Board. Were my indemnity a little larger, I should be happy to provide for this need also, but that provision is now exhausted.

Our German friends have just sent us Lt 126. to use for the water supply, etc. and this, with some other contributions from Eng. and America have nearly sufficed to clear off the debt on the windmill and

the church, including the church lot, and I feel confident that these things will be provided for. You will be glad to know that the church building is rapidly approaching completion. The floors and ceilings are done, the windows made, but glass not yet set, and there remains the plastering, which it is not yet quite safe to begin as it might freeze at night. The bell reached Erz. too late to come on last fall, and must wait till carts can bring it. We are thinking a little of hanging this on the windmill tower, instead of on the church, as at first planned. If we do this, the only object of a tower on the church would be ornament, and I am not sure what we shall do about it.

I inclose with this a copy of the annual report of the station. I am glad to say that the condition of affairs in the city church is still most encouraging, and it is expected that ten new members will be received there at the near communion. At the request of a large number from the lake port, Avants, a school has been recently started there, and services are held there every Sunday evening. I have just returned from a five days visit at Agants, but found the roads pretty bad. The fact that we had no regular preacher to send them this year is a disadvantage to them, but two efficient graduates of the last class are teaching there and conducting meetings. Last Sunday we had about 150 people at service, and the time of the visit was largely devoted to composing difficulties among the members. I hope that Bad. Garabed may go over there for a while now, for there is evidently a good field there if only it could be cultivated.

A good deal of fear has prevailed here, but confidence seems now to be slowly returning. Our hearts are very sad over the news of the murder of Mr. Labaree of Urmia, my cousin by marriage. This is one of the deeply mysterious providences which we can not now understand.

With kindest regards from wife and self, Your's most truly

G. C. Raynolds.

Dear, Mar. 2 1904

Rec'd MAY 11 1904

Van, April 14th. 1904.

Ans'd JUN 10 1904

Dear Dr. Barton,

I want to write a few lines about the material part of our work, especially in connection with the question of care and insurance of buildings. It is a long time since there has been any meeting of this mission to talk over such matters, and I am not quite sure that I have a correct understanding of the question of insurance. I feel a little doubt whether the rent we pay for the houses in which we live includes insurance or not. If not, no provision for the insurance of our buildings has been made, at least so far as any station action is concerned. If the Board takes this action, as mentioned on page 16 of the manual, aside from the appropriations granted to the mission, then it is all right, but if, as would seem to be implied on page 9, this item must be included in the House Fund, and this must be taken first from the regular appropriations, and only the remainder used for regular work, then we here in Van have no insurance. We feel that there should be an insurance, and this especially on the new church, which is somewhat more exposed to incendiary danger than the other buildings, which are directly under the care of the night watchman.

The buildings on our premises here which were built with mission funds cost proximately Lt 2700. Besides these there have been erected a number of buildings used for the orphanage, a hospital and church, and a wind-mill, at a proximate cost of Lt 2400. These have not cost the Board a cent, but are now its property, i.e. they have been erected by funds not coming thro the Board, but are held in the same way as the Board's other property. Besides this there is a chapel in the walled city which cost about Lt 150. making the whole cost of the buildings about Lt 5250. and half of one percent of this would be about Lt 26. Now if this were to be first subtracted from our regular appropriations, it would be equivelent to taking off one sixth of the whole appropriation for the general work of the A.B.C.F.M. The estimates sent in for this work for 1904 was intended to include the actual work of the male department of the station work for the year, and the work actually done is likely to exceed rather than come under this estimate. The appropriation granted for this work from the Board is Lt 150. or almost exactly one half. The other half, the aggressive work outside of Van, among the villages can only be carried on because some kind friends who have become interested in Van thro the orphanage work, are sending us help from England and Germany. Nearly the whole of this outside work is in new places where there is no community who can provide for the expense, which therefore must absolutely be supported from abroad, or stopped, but it is an exceedingly hopeful work, and the work which mainly justifies the continuance of the station. It must be some fifteen or twenty years since the present per-centage of the different stations was fixed, as also the amount granted by the Board. As the youngest station, Van ought to be growing and needing increased appropriations, perhaps more than the other stations, where the people are probably better able to take a share in providing for any growth which may take place. It is true, come to think of it, that Van's percentage of the mission appropriations has been increased, I think, twice since it was first arranged, but the growth in the work during the last few years calls for just about twice as much money as is now granted by the Board. At present, all that the Board is asked to pay for repairs on the whole premises is the equivelent of the rent which the three mission families pay, the rest being paid by the orphanage, but it is hardly fair to put so much on the orphanage. This mud architecture is

much less expensive at the start than that in use at most other stations, but "eternal vigilence" is the price of permanence, and this costs money. Consequently a much larger percentage of the original cost is needed for repairs than in most stations.

My chief object in writing this letter is to make sure that these buildings are properly insured, and that without diminishing the appropriations available for the general work.

It may be desirable to give a more itemized estimate of the value of the buildings which ought to be insured. Since the massacre, labor is cheaper than it was before, and so the newer buildings have cost less than the earlier ones did.

~~Hospital building, with dispensary and drug room~~ ~~8000.00~~

~~The windmill and machinery~~ ~~450.00~~

Hospital Building, with Dispensary and Drug room	LT	800.00
The new Church Building		400.00
The Wind-mill and accompanying machinery		450.00
Four buildings used by the orphanage		900.00
Two dwelling houses, occupied by Drs. Raynolds and Ussher, cost		800.00
A Building used as stable, granary and shops		400.00
A Boys' School building		500.00
Appertaining to the AmBoard, on our premises		4250.00
A Building used as Girls' School and teacher's residence		800.00
Total buildings on our premises		5050.00
A Chapel in the walled city		150.00
Total in Van.		7000.00
Buildings in two different villages		30.00
Total to be insured.		7030.00

The above list is more carefully prepared than the earlier statement, and is not an excessive estimate of the value of the buildings, tho a few of the older ones might perhaps be replaced today for somewhat less than the figures given.

Since I began writing this letter the post has come in bringing your favor of March 18th. for which many thanks. You ask for the size of the hospital. I thought you had been informed on that subject. The hospital building is 70 X 50 Ft. and three stories high. The lower storey contains kitchen, store rooms and chapel, the second storey has four large wards, easily accommodating ten or twelve beds each, and all with a sunny exposure, and three small wards and an operating room. On the ~~fourth~~ third floor are six private wards, two nurses rooms and an isolation ward, with two open verandas. At the other end of the lot, on the street, is a building containing two waiting rooms, a consulting room and drug store, with a second storey to be used for a reading room.

The church is practically the same size, viz. 70 X 50 Ft. having a gallery around three sides, and able to accommodate 1000 people quite comfortably. It is to have a bell, a large cabinate organ, etc.

We will try to send you photos of the buildings before very long.

With very kindest regards from wife and self for yourself and family Drs. Smith and Strong and their families and other friends at the Rooms,

Your's most sincerely

G. C. Raynolds.

I am glad to say that the package of Mr. Heralds got thro all right and has afforded us all great pleasure.

REC'D JUN 23 19 ANS'D JUL 15 1904

Van, May 23rd. 1904.

Dear Friends,

Thursday, May 19th. was a red letter day for the Protestant comm nity at Van. On that day was dedicated the new house of worship which has been under construction for nearly a year. The audience room varie slightly from the rectangular form, but is practically nearly seventy fee from north to south and fifty from east to west. The pulpit is on the east side and a gallery runs around the other three sides. A fifty fee span, gable roof covers the space between the end galleries, while the roo over the galleries themselves is flat. The room has a board ceiling bo under the roof and under the galleries, which is painted a pale, grayish bl while the walls and pillars are a warm pinkish tint. The windows are large and churchly, and the appearance of the building, both outside and in while exceedingly plain, is chaste and handsome and like an American chu A bell tower rises over the principal entrance, on the west front, and the bell is only waiting for the roads to open to come on from Erzroom. Ther are several church edifices in Turkey larger than this one, but I know of no one so consonant with our ideas of church architecture, and I am glad t say that its acoustic properties seem to be of the best. Thursday, accor di ng to the Armenian calendar, was Ascension day, and tho the weather was most unfavorable, a very unseasonable snow storm prevailing much of the da with the mercury about the freezing point, and the roads most execrably mu dy, yet the building was crowded, and it is believed that not less than 150 people were present. The pulpit was finely decorated with flowers, and the whole room presented a most attractive appearance. In the way of mu sic, one anthem from the old Armenian service was sung, one original translation of a dedication hymn, and three other hymns. The committee appoin ed to secure the half of the funds which the people were to provide, repor ed that more than Lt 125. ($550.) had already been paid in. The final co of the building will probably be not far from Lt 450. ($1980.) and the subscriptions already writen approach to the half of this sum, and they confidently expect to be able to raise the whole amount. A history of the mis sionary work in Van was given, and these exercises, with the sermon and the dedicatory prayer, made a service of about two hours duration. Yesterday was our first Sunday service in the new church, and again the building was crowded to its utmost capacity.

That we have been permitted in the good providence of God, to bring this work to a successful completion is a cause of devout gratitude to the Allwise Disposer of events, and it is interesting to see how He has brought things together to accomplish this. In all the history of this station, there has probably never before been a time when we would have been allowed to erect a hospital and church without official interference, but the coming of a thoroughly good and friendly Vali opened the way on that side. But this alone would have been of no avail without funds with which to do the work. But simultaneously, from a most unexpected quarter, a considerable sum of money became available, not sufficient indeed to accomplish all that it was desirable to do, but for making a good beginning, with the confident hope that, once launched, the undertaking would find the additional help needed from other sources. And so the hospital was begun, and as we expected, when it became known that it was actually under way, kind friends from abroad began to contribute toward it, so that it became evident that the funds with which it was begun might be safely withdrawn for other uses. And now half the expense of this commodious and beautiful house of worship is covered, and with the help of other friends, the windmill has been erecte and the water supply for our premises secured. We now need some $300. or $400. with which to build the necessary walls, and do some grading and road making, which will put our premises into good condition, and we feel confident that as help has not failed us in the past, this need will also be met in some way, so that we can put the premises in a shape that will do credit to the Lord's work. It is most pleasant to note that the spiritual side of the work is keeping pace with the material. The plan of cooperation

with the Armenian ecclesiastical authorities, for good or for evil, has fallen thro, as it seems to us thro no fault of ours. Arsen Vartabed appointed a committee to carry out the plan agreed upon for cooperation in village educational work, but when they, in consultation with ourselves, had decided upon a plan consonant with our mutual agreement, he summarily rejected their work, and so the whole project lapsed, after several months of waiting for his final decision. But the Lord's work, during these months of waiting has not stood still. I have just made a short visit to one of the newly established centres of Christian work, and was most agreably impressed with its appearance. The young preacher has secured a good hold on the people and is preaching to an attentive congregation of from 60 to 100, including many of the intelligent and influential men, and a large following of women also, ~~while~~ The Sunday I was there, some 150 were present. There are already a considerable number of substantial men who seem to have firmly embraced the truth, while eight or ten seemed to have had their names writen in the Lamb's Book of Life. The people at this centre are far more noble and intelligent than in most places, and if the Gospel really secures an entrance there, we may confidently expect that it will produce great results. At Mashgudag there has been decided growth and progress, especially among the women, one of the female members of our church having been laboring there for several months, and has done a splendid work among the women, while the men have become more and more established in numbers and character. Ay Nareg a good beginning has been effected and a flourishing school established, and a considerable following secured. Our colporteur has circulated constantly among the villages of this centre, and while the poverty of the people prevents any large sale of books, he finds the people generally ready and eager to listen to the truth and to be influenced by it. Besides the centres mentioned above, there are four important villages in this district, where, at the earnest request of the villagers, we have sent graduates of the orphanage to teach in their schools, they enjoying the opportunity of inculcating Gospel truth both in their schools and among the people. In another village near to Van city, on the other side, a largely signed petition from the villagers induced us to locate a graduate of the orphanage as teacher, while the members of the city church are enthusiastically pushing evangelistic work there, and meeting with a most encouraging reception from the people. The branch of the Van church located in the walled cityhas been manifesting a most encouraging activity, not merely in the above mentioned village work, but among their families and neighbors. Their last communion was a very pleasant occasion, as thirteen individuals united with that church on profession, of whom five were wives of those already members, and now all the married men in that community have their wives with them in the fold. Up to the present time those who have gone out from the orphanage have not very generally identified themselves with the Protestants, at least to the extent of uniting with the church, tho there were a good many among them who gave evidence of conversion. Two young men did take this step some time ago, and two of the thirteen mentioned above were from the orphanage, but now a spontaneous movement has begun among them toward the church, ten have already been examined and accepted, and it is probable that at the July communion at least as many more will be ready for membership.

Political conditions at this end of the empire are not ideal, but we feel strong confidence that no general disturbances will be permitted to occur in this vilayet.

Again we thank God for favors already granted, and take courage to go forward with new faith and hope and zeal, and we anew ask your prayers for the success of our work. Believe me

Your's most sincerely,

G. C. Raynolds.

Ans'd JUL 15 1904

Rec'd JUN 23 1904

86

Van, May 28th. 1904.

Dear Dr. Barton,

Just a line to go with these circular letters which will tell a little about our work at present. I do not know that there is very much to say beyond what is thus writen, farther than to say that political conditions have not improved since the circular was writen. It is generally believed that the revolutionists have plans for some sort of a demonstration about this time, and the people fear it will prove the signal for another general massacre, and so a veritable panic prevails among the people. Our confidence in the purpose of the Vali not to allow anything of that sort is so great, that we do not share this apprehension to any great extent, but conditions are not ideal. Probably whatever is to be will be soon, and there is no reason to feel that it is unwise to send out the new comers in the fall. It may be unwise however to attempt to hold any mission meeting this year, as interior travel would not be wise, even if there were no other reason for not attempting it. As to what has transpired or is now transpiring at Moosh and Sassoon we have very little idea. We suppose that Mr. Cole and Dr. Underwood have gone over there with the Frg. consul of Bitlis, but whether they will be able to send out any information as to the situation I do not know. I am very glad that they can go, and they may be able to relieve the situation to some extent.

Wife joins in kindest regards to yourself and our other friends, and I remain

Your's most sincerely

G. C. Raynolds.

Rec'd JUL 16 1904

Van, June 21st. 1904.

My dear Dr. Barton,

Your good letter of May 10th. is before me and we are greatly cheered by your account of Mr. Yarrow, and I especially am looking forward to his arrival with brightest anticipations, hoping and believing that some of the now necessarily neglected work will be taken up when we are two of us in this department. Dr. Ussher is always most willing and anxious to do all in his power to help in other departments, but his medical and surgical work are more than one man can safely carry, and allow almost no time for other work. I send today, under separate cover, a set of photographs of our premises which have just been taken, and which I think you will be glad to see. Whether you keep such things on file, or whether you will consider them merely personal, you know. I should like to send sets to a large number of my friends, but they are rather expensive. I would like to have my dear friends the Strongs and Mrs. Means see the pictures, as also Dr. and Mrs. Smith. I will try, before long to send sets to Poughkeepsie and Longmeadow. Thanks to Mr. Hicks for kindly sending the extract from Mr. Hopkins' letter.

We certainly are enjoying an open door here at present, and wish we had more of time and strength to use in entering them. One of our German ladies has several times visited a village not far away, with two or three Armenians, and another has begun going to houses in quarters a little distant from the church, and from all sides in the city and villages openings are presenting themselves. I am sorry to say that our itinerant evangelist, Kooroozian, has resigned his work, and is talking of leaving the city. The reason assigned is failing health, but this does not seem to be the chief reason. He has recently taken a position of active opposition to our preacher, and seems to desire to take his place, and when we did not encourage him in this ambition, he took umbrage and has resigned from our work

and withdrawn from the church. He has always been a bit crochety, but is well adapted for this village work, and we regret his withdrawal. Another of the village preachers is planning to go to Aintab for farth study, and this is not in accordance with our judgement, tho we believe motives to be good enough, and that his present purpose is to return to work here. So we shall be rather extra hard up for native workers ne year, but we will do the best we can.

Dr. Ussher may have writen you that they are putting up a house or lake shore, at Artemid, to occupy for the summer. They are not plannir ask any appropriation for it, but hope to swing it from private funds. is about seven or eight miles from the houses, the nearest healthful pc available on the lake shore.

The closing days of the school year are upon us, and next week wil see the beginning of vacation, but just how much rest we shall succeed securing remains to be seen.

Wife joins in kindest regards to yourself and family and to our c friends at the rooms, and I remain

Your's most sincerely

G. C. Raynolds.

Rec'd AUG 22 1904

88

Van, July 25th. 1904.

Dear Dr. Barton,

Your most welcome favor of June 9th. came duly to hand, and we are very thankful to hear such good reports of our new associates to be, and we are looking forward to their coming with high hopes for the benefit they will bring to the work, as well as for the relief they will bring to us personally. I am expecting to go to meet them, and the question is as to how far I ought to go. That it is quite essential to go as far as Igdir is clear, and it would not be very easy for them to come thro Russia with no language, so that it may be best to go to Batoum, especially as it is desirable that I should have a chance to see Mr. Larson at Tiflis, to find out about what arrangements can be effected for sending money, as there are many who wish to send back and forth, and I would also like to see some of my orphan boys who are living there now. My associates suggested the idea of my starting a few weeks early and going as far as Cons'ple. to secure a little rest and change. The plan certainly had its attractions, but aside from the fact that I felt I ought not to be absent at the time the schools will open, I did not feel that I could afford the expense, as the mere steamer fare both ways would be nearly Lt 10. and of course there would be many other expenses in such a visit. Besides this, I should feel mean to be off having a good time, when my wife, who needs a change even more than I do was still staying on here. She is staying down at Artemid this vacation, and so getting a little more rest than sometimes, and she would not get much rest from a short trip, even if the condition of the country were conducive to safe travelling, which I am sorry to say is not the case. If I should find that Mr. Crawford would be at Treb. at the time I went on, I might think it wise to go that far and try to get our box business into a more satisfactory shape, but I am not sure about that.

I think that Dr. Ussher has writen you some things about political con-

~~ditions, but I do not know how much.~~ There is nothing at present to make us feel that we are in any special danger here, and our children are at the usual summer camps as also the mission circle at Artemid. There is however a ~~good deal~~ of insecurity abroad, and a good many murders of single travellers have taken place quite near the city, so that the people hesitate about going ~~about~~, except in large companies. The general condition of the people is unspeakably bad, mainly due to the utterly cruel way in which taxes are being collected. Cattle, household necessities, beds, coppers, etc. growing crops, fields, anything that can be found are being sold at a merely nominal price to satisfy the tax collector, and thus the Armenians are being reduced to starvation, and their property is being passed over to the Koords, and the latter are obtaining a foothold in the Armenian villages and it looks as if the policy were to extinguish the Armenians, or at least drive them from the villages, and indeed already many villages have been practically depopulated of their Armenian inhabitants. Where it is all to end only the Lord knows, and it is hard to understand what are His plans and purposes with regard to this oppressed people. Nor is it easy to predict what will be the effect of all this on our work. The common people are desirous that we should continue and extend our work both educational and evangelistic.) The cooperation scheme having fallen thro, we wait to see what course Arsen Vartabed will take and what he will be able to accomplish. It is said that he has now joined forces with the revolutionists, and that probably they will now assume a position of active hostility to our work, and that probably they may succeed in so terrorizing the people that they will not dare to work with us, and that our workers may fear to carry on the work thro the same influences. We are sure that the Lord is stronger than either Vartabed or revolutionist, but what His plans may be in the whole matter we do not know. We shall try to do all in our power to continue the very hopeful work, and then leave the results to Him.

Our Sunday services continue to be encouraging, and even now, with all the children and most of the teachers, etc. away we have from 500 to 700 present, including outside children, who come in large numbers and stay for the s. I think there were not less than 150 such children present yesterday. Certainly there is an encouraging opening. The new church bell arrived a few days ago, and the authorities did not wish to even give it into our possession, and even the Vali said that an order from Cons'ple. would be needed to enable us to use it. I presume that there are no bells in use here except on churches which have firmans, and it is most desirable that our rights in these lines should be speedily secured.

I do not know how much news you may be able to secure from Bitlis, and it is certainthat we do not yet know very much of what has happened there. A week ago Sat. the Gov. received a wire that half the market was burned, and on Monday that the whole was gone. We wired our friends and received answer that they were safe, that there had been great loss of property, some 300 shops burned, but no loss of life. This is really all that we know. These extensive fires at Marsovan and Bairut and Bitlis certainly look as if they must be intentional, and we can not tell what they may forebode.

Our comfort and all the gloom which surrounds us is that the Lord reigns, that we are in His hands, and that it is our's only to do the work of each passing day according to the light we have and leave all results to his all-wise disposal.

Wife joins in heartiest greetings to yourself and family and to Drs. Strong and Smith and their families and Mrs. Means, and I remain

Your's most sincerely

G. C. Raynolds.

3

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s all-wise disposal.

Life joins in heartiest greetings to yourself and family and to Mrs.
t and Ruth and their families and Mrs. Meeks, and I remain

Your's most sincerely

G. C. Tempelmeyer

Rec'd AUG 29 1904

Van, Aug. 2nd. 1904.

Dear Dr. Barton,

Dr. Ussher was very much rushed today, and did not have time to make up a package for you, but wanted to send these photos, and I will just say that we are all as usual, nothing startling having happened, nor anything to brighten the sombre outlook of which we have already writen you. Our only comfort is that the Lord still rules and none can thwart his wise designs. Think I wrote that we are not allowed to ring our new bell till permission comes from Cons'ple. We are hoping and praying that the demands of our Govt. may be speedily granted and thus a firman secured for our work.

It is time to close the post, so Good bye.

Your's ever most sincerely

G. C. Raynolds.

Mr. J. Raymond

Van, Turkey

Aug. 2 - 1904

AUG 31 1904

Van, Aug. 8th. 1904.

Dear Dr. Barton,

You requested to be kept informed of all that might happen here, and so I will tell of the events of the past week. Nareg is the name of a famous monastery and village near Akhtamar, south of the lake, ten hours from Van. It is one of the places which we have begun to occupy. Our preacher there had been here for a visit, and returned to the village last Tuesday evening, and immediately received an invitation from the vartabed to come and drink tea with him and tell him the city news. Going he found 6 revolutionists, armed to the teeth, sitting with him, and there were 4 more in another room. Soon a boy came to say that the village was surrounded, and it was found that a party of soldiers and zabtiehs were upon them. The Rs. closed the doors and fired from the windows killing or wounding two soldiers and one zabtieh, after which the rest fled, and the Rs. also left the village, many of the villagers going with them. The preacher managed to get out of the vank, and disguised in female apparel escaped to another village and the next day came on to Van. He reported that not only that village was entirely deserted, but that a general panic had caused all the people in that region to flee from their villages, leaving their harvesting work, etc. Dr. Ussher sent word to the Vali that if he wished, and would authorize him to do so, he was willing to go over there and reassure the poor people. The offer was accepted, and he went, first calling on the Kaimakam, and then going to the village. He found the other villagers already returned to their homes and work, but only a very few at Nareg, but they were delighted to see Dr. Ussher, and sent word to the rest to return. While the village was deserted the Govt. sent a guard and nothing was injured. The Koords say they have been instructed not to mix in if any disturbance

occurs with the Rs.and this seems to be the policy of the Govt.

\\ Last Friday the priest of a Syrian village near Van was brought in badly wounded by a bullet which had shattered several inches of the right humerus,driving outthe fragments of bone thro the flesh and skin. The shot was firedby the Moslem guard of the village,who was attempting to abduct the priest's daughter. He succeeded in getting possession of her, but yesterday she wasbrought to the city,and today the Vali has taken her testimony that she is a Christian,and sent her to her parents,who are at the house of the English mission. The perpetrator of the deed is still at large.

\\ The times are certainly critical here,but we do not apprehend a general rising,and if there were,we do not apprehend personal injury to ourselves,certainly unless it comes from the Rs.who are not pleased that we do not espouse their cause. Last spring we learned that they had a plan to kill me and the Eng.Consul,to attract the attention of the world,but that they thought better of it and changed their minds. It seems as if they were determined not to leave anything of their people here!

Tues.A.M. It is reported,but I do not know if with any truth,that a disturbance of some kind has taken place at Agants,but I have no particulars. I forgot to say above that Dr.Ussher found a somewhat different version of the Mareg affair,viz.that only one man was killed,a zabtieh,and that by the soldiers and not by the Rs.and it is said that this is not the first instance in which soldiers have improved such opportunities to make way with zabtiehs. Our hearts are always sore over the sad stories we must constantly hear,when we have no means of rendering help.

Wife joins in kindest regards to yourself and family and all friends and I remain, Your'smost sincerely

G. C. Raynolds

Rec'd SEP 12 1904

Tan, Aug. 15th. 1904.

Ans'd OCT 5 1904

My dear Dr. Barton,

Last post brought your favor of July 15th. and the I have nothing special to say, yetin accordance with your request, I will send a line so that you may know how we are. It also comes to my mind that our estimates should be made out and sent on, and I must try to prepare them, the the rest of the station are down at Artemid.

Nothing special has happened during the past week except the circulation of various and sundry rumors. The chief one was that a disturbance had taken place at Shadakh, and that the Govt. buildings were burned, but several days have passed without any confirmation of the report, and so I believe it to be unfounded, like so many others. That more or less revolutionists are circulating about the country is doubtless true, but of their intentions and movements we know but very little.

Mr. Peet writes urging me to come on to Cons'ple. to meet the Yarrows, on the ground that he wants to consult me on various points, and I begin to feel that possibly it might be well to go, especially as I feel that some change is really rather necessary for me, but my passport has been allowed to lapse, and whether this matter can be arranged or not I do not know.

I am anticipating a very great deal from the coming of Mr. and Mrs. Yarrow, as they will be able to render much assistance in my special departments, in which I very greatly need help. Excuse this brief note, since I have really nothing special to say, and believe me, with kindest regards for yourself and family and other friends, from wife and self

Your's most sincerely

G. C. Raynolds.

Tuesday morning. Post has come in, and reports that there is time at Batoum, and Mr. Stapleton suggests that the Vs. join Miss Lord come in via Erzroom, and this seems to be the wisest and cheapest pl the whole, and accordingly I am writing today to Erz. and Mr. Peet, tha shall be glad to have this arrangement made, and so the question of ing to Cons'ple. seems to be settled without my taking any responsib in the matter.

Consul Norton writes that we may expect to see him here this w this will afford me a little change.

It has proved impossible to get the estimates ready for today. you need to act on them before next week's post reaches you, you may er that last year's estimates hold over. I suppose there is no ho your being able to give us more than this year, and we must run the the work on English and German funds.

Aug 1 1916

Rec'd NOV 26 1904

Van, Aug. 22nd. 1904.

Ans'd NOV 29 1904

Dear Mrs. and Miss Wheeler,

I think I must have acknowledged the letters of April 21st. and May 31st. We were greatly delighted to receive the good long letter of June 23rd. and to know, Mrs. Wheeler, that you still retain such a warm interest in the Van work, tho we had every reason before to know that such was the case. The postal of Jul. 23rd. has just come to hand, and the money will come along in due time I know. Be sure we receive all these contributions with sincere thankfulness, and with the desire that every cent may be used in the wisest manner.

I am sorry to report that the present outlook in Van is exceedingly dark, more so, in many respects than I have ever seen it before. The revolutionists are now filling into this vilayet rapidly, and while no very important outbreak has yet occurred, there is every reason to believe that they intend to make serious demonstrations before many weeks have passed, unless some satisfactory action is taken by the government. There seems to have been some sort of promise given that such might be the case at the time of the Sultan's accession celebration Sep. 1st. and they wait to see. I confess I do not see much reason to hope for this, and I fear that there may be renewed massacres, and if such is the case, it is probable that they will be worse than before. The people are in great fear. Even now business continues at a stand-still, and I do not see how it is possible to send out the considerable number of orphans who are old enough to go out, because there is absolutely no means of support to be found for them outside. There seems no hope of help from man, but God still reigns, and we are sure that He is able to prevent further disturbance, tho we do not know whether He will see it best to do so or not. We can only leave ourselves

and our work and the wretched people about us to His tender mercies. If it is his will that our lives should end by violence, and that the hoped for fruits of our work should be lost, we will submit it all to him, sure that it is the best way.

We have been expecting the coming of Consul Norton, who gave us hope of starting from Bitlis last Mond. but he does not yet appear. His presence would be a satisfaction to us at such a time as this, especially as the British consul is away at Moosh, and may be absent several weeks longer.

Vacation is drawing to a close, but I fear we are not a very well rested circle. For myself I had expected to go to Batoum to meet the Yarrows, but it has finally seemed wiser for them to come vial Erz. with Miss Lord, as Mr. Stapleton will go on to Treb. to meet her, and Dr. Atwood of Bitlis is now at Erz. expecting to return to B. after the party arrives and bring Mr. Cole's daughter, who is supposed to be coming with Miss Lord. So it is probable that it may not be necessary to go farther than Bitlis. I hope matters will not so turn that it will be unwise for the new comers to come.

At present the attitude of some of the Govt. officials seems to have changed towards us, and our recent itinerant evangelist, who had resigned and was just starting for Pardezag, has been imprisoned on a trumped up charge, and all efforts thus far to secure his release have been in vain.

Dr. Ussher had a narrow escape from serious injury Sat. by the stumbling of his horse and breaking the cart, but he did escape for which we are devoutly thankful. I fear I shall not have time to write to Dr. Barton this week, and I am going to beg that you will be so kind as to send this letter to him to read, and will he and you and other friends accept much love from

Your's most sincerely

G. C. Raynolds.

Carl Lorsbach
Aug 22, 1911

SEP 26 1904

Van, Aug. 29th. 1904.

OCT 5 1904

Dear Friends,

About a fortnight since a party of revolutionists, some 40 in number left Moosh and established themselves at a village above Tadwan, on the slope of Nimroud Dagh, and had a little battle with the troops, killing a small number, and then they siezed a boat at Tadwan and went to the island of Akhtamar, sending the occupants ashore. Troops were sent out with cannon, partly by land and partly in boats, and a considerable number of shots were fired, but I do not learn that anybody was hurt, and after a few days they withdrew, toward the north side of the lake, it is said, and that incident seems to have passed. What other plans the men may have I do not know. Extreme fear is reported from Agants, but we do not know with how much reason.

On Friday we were rejoiced to welcome Dr. Norton, who came from Bitlis by the north side of the lake, visiting Nimroud and Sepan Daghs by the way as he came. Several inches of snow fell while he was in the Sepan crater on Sat. he called on the Vali and the Consuls, and his calls have been returned today. Tomorrow evening we are all invited to the Russian consulate for dinner. We may perhaps tender some entertainments during the week. Messrs. McDowell and Sterrett are away, but are expected back before the end of the week.

We are greatly grieved to learn by wire today that the Erz. boys' school has been burned, and we wonder how it may have happened. Alas ! alas ! our Erz. friends are having a hard time. I wish there were something we might do to help or encourage them.

The Ussher family are still at Artemid, but expected back tomorrow. The rest of the circle are in the city again, and schools are beginning. The uncomfortable heat has passed. We had our first grapes yesterday. Fruit is not abundant, in consequence of the snow and hail in May, but there is enough to enable us to live.

The post just in brings word of the probable fall of Port Arthur, and destruction of the Russian fleet, and it would seem as if the time must be near when even Russia would be willing to sue for peace.

The papers also report Mr. Leishman as pushing vigorously for the recognition of our rights, the arrival of our fleet at Smyrna, and the hope that our demands would be granted "tomorrow". Oh! this tomorrow country! Our preacher has been living all these weeks in hope of being released tomorrow, and still it is tomorrow.

The disturbed state of the country makes us a bit doubtful about how our village work will come out this fall. Some of the workers are afraid to go out to distant villages, some we hesitate to send because they are too much compromised, and in some places the people for whom we would work are inclined to run away. Some of the schools are opening, and we hope that difficulties may quiet down before long.

Somehow we get a more vivid idea of the big company of workers, American and German, at Harpoot, from Dr. Norton's account than we had before. We congratulate the friends there, and especially hope that dear Dr. and Mrs. Barnum may now be able to enjoy a little more of the quiet comfort which belongs to their time of life.

With kindest regards from wife and self to all the friends, I remain

Your's most sincerely

G. C. Raynolds.

Van. Aug. 29th. 1904.

Dear Friends,

About a fortnight since a party of revolutionists, some 40 in number left Moosh and established themselves at a village above Tadwan, on the slope of Nimrud Dagh, and had a little battle with the troops, killing a small number, and then they seized a boat at Tadwan and went to the island of Akhtamar, sending the occupants ashore. Troops were sent out with cannon, partly by land and partly in boats, and a considerable number of shots were fired, but I do not learn that anybody was hurt, and after a few days they withdrew, toward the north side of the lake, it is said, and that instant seems to have passed. What other plans the men may have I do not know. Extreme fear is reported from Agantz, but we do not know with how much reason.

On Friday we were rejoiced to welcome Dr. Norton, who came from Bitlis by the north side of the lake, visiting Nimrud and Sepan Dagh by the way he came. Several inches of snow fell while he was in the Sepan district. He called on the Vali and the Consuls, and his calls have been returned today. Tomorrow evening we are all invited to the Russian consulate for dinner. We may perhaps tender some entertainments during the visits of Messrs. Holdwell and Stirratt are away, but are expected back before the end of the week.

We are greatly grieved to learn by wire today that the Fire Boys' school has been burned, and we wonder how it may have happened. Alas! alas! our friends are having a hard time. I wish there were something we might do to help or encourage them.

The Usahar family are still at Artemid, but expected back tomorrow. Most of the girls are in the city again, and schools are beginning. The uncomfortable heat has passed. We had our first grapes yesterday. Fruit is not abundant, in consequence of the snow and hail in May, but there is enough to enable us to live.

The post just in brings word of the probable fall of Port Arthur, and retraction of the Russian fleet, and it would seem as if the time must be near when even Russia would be willing to sue for peace.

The papers also report Mr. Deishman as pushing vigorously for the recognition of our rights, the arrival of our fleet at Smyrna, and the hope that our degards would be granted "tomorrow". Oh! this tomorrow country! our preacher has been living all these weeks in hope of being released tomorrow, and still it is tomorrow.

The disturbed state of the country makes us a bit doubtful about how our village work will come out this fall. Some of the workers are afraid to go out to distant villages, some we hesitate to send because they are so much compromised, and in some places the people for whom we would work are inclined to run away. Some of the schools are opening, and we hope that difficulties may quiet down before long.

Somehow we get a more vivid idea of the big company of workers, American and German, at Harpoot, from Dr. Norton's account than we had before. We congratulate the friends there, and especially hope that dear Dr. and Mrs. Ussher may now be able to enjoy a little more of the quiet comfort which belongs to their time of life.

With kindest regards from wife and self to all the friends, I remain

Your's most sincerely

S. C. Trowbridge.

Aug 29-1904

REC'D SEP 26 1904

Van, Aug. 30th. 1904.

Dear Dr. Barton,

I am ashamed to say that amid the pressure of many duties, the making out the copy of estimates slipped my mind last week, and I fear it is now too late to be of any help in making out the appropriations, but as I wrote a fortnight ago, appropriations do not seem to bear much relation to our needs; and it is only by help from Eng. and Germany that we are able to keep the work going.

Yesterday's post shows that Mr. Leishman is pushing pretty hard, and I am wondering whether by any possibility this can atall explain this dreadful news from Erzroom of the burning of the boys' school. Our Vali seems as friendly as ever, but a certain number of officials are manifesting a different spirit from what we have usually found.

Latest news from the seat of war looks as if the bottom were beginning to drop out of the Russian pot, and it would seem as if she would have to sue for peace before very long. I am afraid there are not many here who mourn over her misfortunes, tho I am sorry for those who suffer unjustly. There are plenty of that sort of people in this land also.

No time for more today. Wife joins in warmest greetings for you and your's and other friends at the rooms and I remain

Your's most sincerely

G. C. Raynolds.

Rev. G. C. Raynolds

Van, Turkey

Aug 30-1904

REC'D OCT 3 1904

Van, Sep. 5th. 1904.

ANS'D OCT 6 1904

Dear Friends,

The past week has been a very uncomfortable one for Van. Tues. night several shots were fired quite near us, which the Turks reported as a brush between Revs. and soldiers, but it is generally thot to have been a put up job on the part of a faction opposed to the Vali, in consequence of the dismissal of some officials. The following morning the Vali ordered the burning of the house near which it occurred. This we feel to have been a serious mistake, tho we believe his purpose was good. The French and Russian consuls entered a vigorous protest against this act. Soldiers were put as patrols in all the Armenian quarters, and they committed, during the day, a good many outrages, killing at least four unarmed Armenians, one a woman. With the Vali's permission, Dr. Ussher took our fire extinguisher and assisted in extinguishing the fire. Excitement and fear increased during the day, and toward evening we opened the doors at the boys' school and permitted those who wished to come in and occupy the building and play-ground. Perhaps 1000 people may have come in. The Vali gave constant assurances that nothing serious would be allowed to happen, and as he has always said, that any action necessary toward the Revs. would be confined to the soldiers and the Rs. His conduct during the week as also previously has been consistent with this policy. The Rs. adopted a conservative policy, and were not in evidence during the week. Thurs. A.M. was quiet, and the usual official calls were made, both Vali and Commandant giving strongest possible assurances of safety, and we felt a good measure of confidence in their honesty and ability, but this confidence was not shared by the people, nor wholly by the consuls, and our doors were kept open, as also those of the consuls and Dominicans. On Friday conditions did not improve. A suggestion had been made to the consuls to try to bring about an understanding between the Govt. and Rs. but was not considered feasible. Some communications from the Rs. were made to Dr. Ussher, and communicated to the Vali, and finally somewhat more formal negotiations took place thro Dr. Ussher, securing the withdrawal of the Rs. who were from outside, and then of the soldiers. Frid. P.M. reports were in circulation that the Hamedias were coming in, and that one barracks was filled, and that the intention was to search houses, which would almost certainly have precipitated a general conflict, and for a while our confidence in the Govt. wavered, and we encouraged people to take refuge here, which we had not done before, only allowing those who wished to come. Sat. morning Dr. Norton and I rode out to the barracks, but found no Hamideas, or other signs of preparation, and a little after noon the Vali sent officials to notify us that the soldiers were withdrawn, the Rs. had left the city, and everyone might return home in entire confidence, Before night most of the refugees had gone, but some have staid till now, Mond. A.M. but are now going. It has been a cause for profound gratitude that Dr. Norton should have been here at this time, especially as Capt. Tyrrell was absent at Moosh, and it has been reassuring to see "Old Glory" floating over our buildings. Sunday A.M. the Vali sent officers to express his thanks to Dr. Ussher for the efficient efforts he had made to secure peace and quiet, and even talked about decoration for him! The French consul also sent copy of a telegram from his embassy, containing assurances from the Am. Legation that we might be confident of safety. And so this particular crisis seems to have passed, but when another may arise we can not tell, but we expect that Capt. Tyrrell will soon be here, and that will be a great relief. We are thankful for the mercies already granted, and pray the Lord to continue his protecting mercies still.

Your's most sincerely

G. C. Raynolds.

Sept. 8 1907

Rec'd OCT 10 1904

Van, Sep. 12th. 1904.

Ans'd NOV 29 1904

Dear Friends,

Since my circular of a week ago nothing serious has occurred. On Tuedday we gave a lunch to the consular circle, the Vali and Commandant being also present. This was in honor of Dr. Norton, postponed from the previous week. Wed. A.M. Dr. Norton left us, and I went with him the first day. We spent the first night at Akhtamar, going out to the island in the morning We found that during the time that the revolutionists were on the island, and it was besieged by the soldiers, some 35 shells fell on the island, but the old church and other buildings were not injured, probably because they were the mark aimed at! Thurs. noon I bade good bye to Dr. Norton, and visited several villages on my way toward home, where I arrived Frid. evening. Akhtamar and Nareg vanks were both occupied by soldiers for a while, but were vacated at the time I was there. The Kaimakam reported that he had been to Gargar and could find no revolutionists there, tho others say they are plenty there. It is said that he kindly sends word beforehand when he is to make a visit anywhere and this may have been the reason he found one of the gentry. In the villages of Haigatsore, four hours from the city it was reported that a band of forty or so were circulating. So long as they are so near, we can not feel that safety is assured.

Capt. Tyrrell arrived on Tuesday, but not in season to attend our dinner, but it is a great relief to feel that he is on the ground, for we have far greater confidence in his ability to assist in maintaining order than in that of any other consul, aside from the fact that he is the one to whom we have a right to look for protection.

As we learn of the arrival of the Yarrows at C. and that the Erz. party is only now about starting from America, it seems better to have our associates come in at once via Tiflis, and we are wiring Mr. Peet in that sense. As my passport has lapsed, and I have failed to renew it, it will be necessary for Dr. Ussher to go to meet them in my place.

Dear Dr. Barton,

You will see from the above what we have been doing during the last week and what are our plans for the coming of the Yarrows. The schools are well under way now, tho they were interrupted a week by the troubles. The village work is rendered more difficult by the presence of the revolutionists. We feel obliged to take the ground that those who are in our employ must refrain from connecting themselves with the Rs. and this naturally stirs up the latter, and at present they seem to be able to prevent our carrying on the work if they so decide. We are not sure that they will do this however, but it is true that the situation here is a very delicate one at present, and we can not tell how it will turn.

During the days of the trouble we opened the boys' school building and their play ground to whoever might wish to take refuge there, but did not feel that it was necessary to open the whole premises, but tried to keep the orchange yards and our private gardens free. Some were determined not to be satisfied with what was granted them, and found a good deal of fault when we attempted to enforce the rules laid down, and some may stay away from our services in consequence, but still the church is well filled.

We are very thankful for the favorable result of the Smyrna demonstration, and hope soon to realize its advantages.

With kindest regards from wife and self to yourself and our other friends, I remain

Your's most sincerely

G. C. Raynolds.

Rev. G. C. Raynolds, M.D.

Van, Turkey

Sept 12 - 1904

Van, Sep. 20th. 1904.

ABS'R NOV 29 1904

Dear Dr. Barton,

You wanted a weekly missive, so here goes. Dr. Ussher left Sat. to meet the Yarrows at Tiflis, as my passport had lapsed so that I could not go, and he hopes to get back before the end of next week. It is delightful to feel that they are so near.

At 4 1/2 A.M. today a fire broke out at the house of our neighbor Bed-Agha Kapamajian, and I went down with our extinguisher, but they had it under control already. It was incendiary, and I presume revolutionary, as it is said there have been several attempts on his life before. It is said he has declined invitations to contribute to quasi-patriotic funds. And his family had left for Cons'ple. yesterday morning.

The Armenian arachnort died last Sunday morning, and is being buried today. I went in a little while to the funeral, but excused myself after an hour and came tony lessons and post.

This post brought a copy of the Herald with the picture of our church. Thanks for the kind interest this shows.

The revolutionists are said to be dwelling in villages in Haigatsore, two hours away, and to be exercising governmental perogatives there, the Turks have promised the Eng. Consul that nothing shall happen for a month, so as to give him opportunity to see if any assurance of improved conditions can be secured. So you see that a condition of unstable equilibrium still continues here.

With kindest regards from us both to all friends

Your's most sincerely

G. C. Raynolds.

Dr. Geo. B. Reynolds

Can. Sept. 20 1904

Rec'd Oct. 20

Rec'd OCT 31 1904

98

Van, Oct. 4th. 1904.

Ans'd NOV 29 1904

Dear Friends,

You will be glad to know that we had the pleasure last Friday of welcoming back Dr. Ussher and with him Mr. and Mrs. Yarrow, all safe and well. They had rain every day on the way from Igdir, but nevertheless came pretty comfortably, and, strange to say! were glad to get here, and you may be sure that we gave them a warm welcome. They came about 11 hours the last day, but we sent a carriage out four hours to meet them, which much facilitated the last day's journey. I went out about three hours, and the rest of the station drove out about an hour, to the foot of the mountain, and then the wholestation sat down to dinner with us. Mrs. Yarrow was somewhat tired, but seems all right now, the she did not venture out on Sunday. Mr. Yarrow however went with me to the city Sunday noon and took part in the communion service which was held there, and he also spoke to the boys at their evening meeting. We are all greatly pleased with the appearance of the new comers and believe that the glowing accounts we had previously received of them were not exaggerated. Mr. Y. seems to be an all round man, and we anticipate much from their coming.

Dr. Ussher was able to see the Catholicos at Itchmiadzin, where they spent the Sabbath, and gave him points with regard to the political situation here and the effect of the revolutionary activity which is manifesting itself here. He was sufficiently impressed to write a letter to the Com. at Tiflis, which he considered so important that he sent a special messenger with it, and he himself, in his age and weakness and in the rain, went over to Erivan to try to influence matters there. A band of 600 had been dispatched for Van, but in consequence of Dr. Ussher's representations they were recalled. If this influence proves permanent we may hope that the agitators here also may be recalled and some greater measure of security obtained. Had the 600 come, I fear it would have gone hard with us. I am sorry to say that the local leaders, with whom we, with the Eng. consul have had some interviews, do not show a hopeful spirit. They are carrying on their propaganda in very objectionable style in the near villages and the people are in terror of them.

The seasonis very unusually cold and rainy, very favorable for the fall sowing of grain, but less so for the ripening and preservation of grapes. The price of wheat had begun to go up, but has now turned the other way.

It is time for the post to be put up, and so I will say good bye and subscribe myself

Your's most sincerely

G. C. Raynolds

Ven. Oct. 4th. 1904.

Rec'd NOV 8 1904

Van, October 11th. 1904.

Dear Dr. Barton,

Just a word to tell you the present situation.

We have been breathing a little easier of late, as, since Dr. Ussher's interview with the Catholicos, of which I think I have writen you, the revolutionists seemed to be keeping quiet, and we hoped would continue to do so But yesterday the village of Nareg, with, it is said, its historic church and monastery, were burned by the soldiers. We have not particulars as yet. I think there may have been revolutionists there recently, but it is said they had withdrawn to Persia. In any case this action seems a plain breach of the pledge the Vali had given that the government would deal not with unarmed people but only with the revolutionists themselves. What may be the effect we can not tell, but fear it may be the occasion of bringing back the revolutionists in still larger force and so greatly endanger the city and province generally. We still feel confident that the presence of the Rs. can bring only evil. If this act is really unprovoked, the consuls may be able to so use it as to greatly help the Armenian cause, but if it can be said that the Rs. were there and it was to oppose them, the force of it will be broken. I do hope that all possible effort will be made to prevent any encouragement being given in the U.S. to the Rs. to use any active means to stir up trouble, as I fear they are in some way getting encouragement in those lines from America.

In great haste, but with heartiest best wishes from us both to all

Your's most sincerely G. C. Raynolds.

At the Vali's request Dr. Ussher is going to Nareg to ascertain what has happened and the Vali promises to punish any one who is at fault for anything that has been done.

Rec'd NOV 18 1904

Van, Oct. 17th. 1904.

My dear Dr. Barton,

I think I mentioned last week that a village named Nareg was burning. That Tuesday morning Dr. Ussher had occasion to see the Vali, and he was very anxious to know just what had happened there, being sure that he was receiving incorrect reports, and he promised to punish anyone who was guilty in connection with the affair. Dr. Ussher accordingly went over there and it may be that he will report to you as to what he saw, but lest he should not get time to do so, I will give you a few items which he reports. A week ago last Friday a band of revolutionists came into the village demanding contributions of wheat for their winter supply, and remained there. The government got word of their presence, and sent soldiers and zabtiehs, who surrounded the village Sunday afternoon, and began firing on the village. The Rs. returned the fire for a short time and then withdrew, and on the way shot a zabtieh who opposed their progress. In consequence the brother of the man shot and his Koordish friends were permitted to attack the village the next day, and they robbed it and then burned nearly all the better class of buildings, including the monastery buildings, except the stone church which was not inflamable, and killed twenty persons at least. Much of the live stock was burned or suffocated in the burning stables. Some of the victims were evidently tortured. A chief of police was sent with Dr. Ussher, and he acted very efficiently, and did what he could to find stolen goods and punish the perpetrators. The Kaimakam, who should have prevented such an outrage, has been dismissed as also one or two officers of soldiers and zabtiehs, and orders are issued for the arrest of the murderers, but we have not yet heard of their being secured. The Rs. who are now here seem to intend to continue their present policy of disturbance, and this makes us fear that the efforts which Dr. Ussher made in Russia may not have proved permanently successful, in changing the revolutionary policy. This gives a

discouraging aspect to the present outlook, and we do not know wha
pect.) What arrangements can be made for the continuance of the
listic and educational work we had begun at Mareg we can not yet
Possibly it can be continued by being transferred to a near villa

Mr. and Mrs. Yarrow are working hard at the language and helpin
looking after outside work on the premises. We are getting the
ises so as to look a little more finished and convenient, so that
can go thro to the church without overrunning all the more private
the establishment. But there will be some work on the church lo
shall not be able to finish this fall. We are now beginning wor
furnaces in the church basement, hoping to be able to moderate the
ture by hot air thus secured, but we shall not attempt to heat the
churches at home are heated.

If political disturbances do not occur to prevent, Mr. Yarrow
hoping to be able to visit Agants this fall, probably next week.
finish up the annual letters of the orphans to their patrons for
post, and when we return from Agants I must pitch into annual acco
How much Mr. Yarrow will be able to help me in making them out I do
know I fear I am not especially good at setting other people to
that my book-keeping is not so perfect that a new hand could do muc
without my constant presence. I hope however that he may be able
in that direction after a while.

I find that Dr. Ussher is at work on an account of his trip and
will probably send you a copy. Wife joins in kindest regards to yo
and family and other friends and I remain

Your's most sincerely

G. C. Raynolds.

G. C. Raynolds, M.D.
Tarkey
Oct. 17, 1894
Van,

P.S. With regard to the special matter of which you wrote I have only spoken to Hattie about it. If Miss McLaren remains here I do not know as we really greatly needanother lady, or at least I fear the Board would not so consider. We also feel a little doubt whether these two would be able to get on harmoniously. On the other hand Miss McLaren does not feel sure that she will not feel obliged before very long to return to America to care for her father, and in that case it might quite likely be desirable for Miss Daniels to come here. Just now I do not know that I can say more than this.

Please let the main part of this letter go to Mardin also.

G.C.R.

Rec'd NOV 28 1904

Fr. Dr. Reynolds

Van Oct 31st 1904

Dear Mr.Peet:

Last week I had a little bilious attack, due in part perhaps to my being rather tired over the work which has occupied my spare time during the last month, viz. getting off the annual letters of the children to their patrons, and Dr.Ussher felt a little that it was risky for me to stay on here this winter, and proposed that wife and I get up at once and go off to Europe. Now that both of us are tired there is no doubt, but I do not think that this little attack was anything serious and it has entirely passed, and I feel quite sure that there is no special risk in my staying on through the winter at least. Next year we will consider the matter, though we have not hitherto entertained the idea of taking another vacation, but it is possible that it might be wiser for us to do it, and that we would thus be able to accomplish a greater aggregate of work before the final break up. The task of putting our house and things in order to leave even for six months, and get ready to start before the weather will make the journey impracticable, at least for a lady, would, it seems to us, involve more risk than the staying thro the winter. Then it does not seem to us that anything but the most imperative necessity would justify our leaving until our new associates get a little started in the language and in acquaintance with the work, so that they could take up some considerable part of the work with a fair hope of successfully handling it.

Dr.Ussher, however, has combined with this proposition another with regard to which perhaps we ought to ask the opinion of others. The political situation here is undoubtedly extremely critical, and so far as we can understand, it is the plan of the revolutionists, unless something satisfactory is done on the part of the government before that time, to make decided demonstrations in the spring, and this would, in all probability mean a general massacre of the Armenian population of Van city and vilayet, and destruction of Armenian houses, and in fact the wiping out of the people as has been so largely accomplished at Sassoun. We of course feel that if there is anything that we can do to avert such a calamity, it is our duty to do it. The revolutionists here do not seem to be amenable to reason, and we have not very much reason to hope that the effect of Dr.Ussher's representations to the Catholicos and Committees in Russia will produce permanent effects. We have rather felt that the place to accomplish anything was in Europe, either by influencing the revolutionary committees in different countries, or those who may be encouraging them in the course

Please consider this question at once. If you do not think there is probability of bettering conditions by such a course you can write us about it. If you approve, wire - "We approve plan," or something to that effect.

Investigation of what the Government has accomplished at Nareg shews about 1/10 of stolen property returned. 15 houses, rebuilt with timber, some of which was cut from Kurdish property and more was forced from Armenians in other villages.

Twenty Kurds and Turks are under arrest for murder and theft, but the worst men are in hiding.

Mr.McDowell leaves Wednesday for his tour south as far as Mosul.

Cordial greetings to all the friends in Constantinople.

Faithfully yours,

C.D.Ussher.

Van, Turkey, October 31st 1904

W.W.Peet, Treasurer,
Constantinople

Dear Mr.Peet:-

The following is not for your eye only but equally for the Committee ad Interim and any others whom you may think it wise to consult.

For a long time Dr.and Mrs Raynolds have been very tired and we other members of the station have felt that they needed a rest. Lately Dr.Raynolds has been looking very tired and we have been fearing a collapse so a few days ago when he was compelled to go to bed with vertigo and vomiting we thought it the beginning of a break and the alarm set us to thinking. Fortunately the trouble was brief and he was up next day though feeble and is now quite himself and expects to start Wednesday for Agantz with Mr Yarrow.

Dr.and Mrs Raynolds have already completed ten years here since their last furlough and have been through three massacres and relief work since then. The strain has been enough to break younger people. It is time for them to have a rest if they are to be able to continue their work in Van for any length of time. Both Dr.and Mrs Raynolds, however, feel stronger than we suppose and insist that they cannot and will not leave the work in its present condition especially so as prospects for Spring are decidedly black.

While thinking of reasons why Dr.Raynolds should leave for Europe one thing occurred to me which seems sufficient in itself aside from the question of health and it is with regard to this we wish to ask your advice.

Revolutionists are active and are evidently preparing for a spring campaign. They are compelling Armeniams to sell even their last cow and buy arms hoping that the people when armed will unite with them in case of trouble. They are numerically weak and if they should begin active operations there could be no hope of success. They would fight awhile and then run away as at Sassoun and leave the people and their homes at the mercy of infuriated Moslems. The indications are that even our strong Vali would be absolutely unable to control either the soldiers or the general populace if once aroused and the Turks say openly that if there is another massacre they will not leave even a child at the breast. The recent trouble showed that not even foreign consuls would be spared and high officers said openly that they would haul down our flag and cut the throat of every Armenian in our

premises.

Revolutionists here are under orders from their superiors in the Russian Caucasus and Europe. They do not seem to be amenable to reason. The only possibility of influencing them seems to be through Europe. Either they must be assured of at least such reforms as have been granted in Macedonia or they must know that the "Powers" absolutely will not insist on reforms and will not be compelled to intervene by any amount of massacre and pillage. The powers must be made to realize the menace there is just now to Armenians and foreigners.

My proposition to Dr.Raynolds was this - That he and Mrs Raynolds should start at once for Europe via Constantinople - get some rest and when able, Dr Raynolds armed with papers shewing him to be the representative of the American, English, German,Italian and French colonies in Van, should visit the capitals of Europe and communicate to our ambassadors and the various ministers of state, etc., and where opportunity offers even to the heads of the nations information as to conditions here and throughout Turkey, and especially the menace of present revolutionary activity to the lives of thousands of Armenians in and about Van and also perhaps to the lives and property of Foreigners.

My plan was that the representatives of these various colonies should write a joint letter to the various Ministers of State, etc., acquainting them with the fact that we were sending as a representative Dr. Raynolds who had been 35 years in the country and was well acquainted with conditions and beg for him a hearing. This would prepare the way for him and probably secure for him a hearing where approach might otherwise be difficult and might bring about either a greater interest on the part of the Powers and insistence on adequate reform or else such counsel to the revolutionary leaders as would induce then to withdraw their armed bands which do only harm.

We want to know whether you in Constantinople think well of such a plan. Roads will soon be closed and there is not time to communicate with Boston, but if you in Constantinople telegraph your approval of the plan, I shall press my authority as "Mission Physician" and insist on Dr. Raynolds leaving for a rest which he absolutely needs, Mrs Raynolds to follow him in the spring,when roads open. Otherwise when he gets his semi annual off I feel almost sure of collapse and he is sufficiently sure of it to promise to allow us to shut people out from him absolutely for two weeks.

If Dr.and Mrs Raynolds can get a thorough rest (not in America) I believe they are good for at least another ten years active service.

they are pursuing. We have thought some of drawing up a statement of the situation as it seems to us, and trying to bring it to the attention of those who might be affected by it. How much can be hoped from any such effort I do not know, but I fear not very much. Now Dr. Ussher has suggested that personal interviews with some one who belongs on the ground, and is familiar with the situation from the beginning of the revolutionary movement, might effect something, with the two classes of people mentioned above, and he has suggested that I should attempt to play that role, by visiting different parts of Europe and trying to secure interviews with those who are influential in such matters. If I really thought that anything worth while could be accomplished by such a trip, I might feel that it was my duty to attempt it, but it seems to me a job quite above and beyond any abilities which I possess. Indeed it seems quixotic for me to start out and attempt such a thing as this, and I certainly should not be willing to attempt it without knowing that some of you people who have a chance to know how such things move are very fully persuaded that there is very great reason to expect that such an expedition may accomplish something worth while. For myself, I feel so little hope of it that I should have preferred to consider the thing as dismissed from our minds, but Dr. Ussher feels that we ought to submit the question to your judgment, and so I have asked him to write you as to how it lies in his mind, and I have stated my view of it. Should you really feel that my going was demanded, please wire me as soon as may be after receiving this post, as the winter seems to intend to set in early, and even for me alone the roads may be closed before very long. With the country in the condition it is I shall be very unwilling to go away and leave my wife here unless the necessity is very great.

Arsen Vartabed has sent me a letter asking me to send it to the Patriarch, probably fearing that it will be tampered with if he sends it himself and so I will make an exception to my rule of not sending other people's letters with mine, and ask you to be so kind as to forward it.

Nothing else I believe in mind just now.

Your's truly,

G.C. Raynolds.

Tam, Oct. 31, 1904
Copy of letter sent to Mr. Peel

Rec'd DEC 19 1904

Van, Nov. 14th. 1904.

Ans'd DEC 28 1904

Dear Friends,

I sent no letters by last week's post, as I was absent during the preceeding week, on a short tour to our outstation on the north side of the lake, Agants. Mr Yarrow went with me, we had pretty steady rain the two days we were going, but beautiful, bright days for the return trip.

I do not know whether anyone wrote last week of the occurrance at Akhtamar, and I would prefer that you do not make public what I may write till you hear it from some other source. It seems that armed and masked men broke into the "Outer house" i.e. the monastery buildings which are on the main land, where the vank officials usually stay, and cruelly murdered Arsen Vartabed and his secratary and another person who was sleeping in the same room, badly mutilating their bodies, etc. Not very much in the way of booty seems to have been taken, and it would seem that the object must have been revenge. There are different stories afloat as to who were the perpetrators, some saying it was Koords, even specifying the man who was mainly responsible for the destruction of Nareg, the brother of the one whom the revolutionists killed there. Others assert with great assurance that it was the work of the revolutionists, probably in revenge for information he was thought to have given to the Patriarch or to the Government about the responsibility of the revolutionists for the destruction of Nareg. As to which theory is the true one I really can not say. Some think the above two parties joined forces in perpetrating this outrage.

Something seems also to have happened near the Persian border a few weeks since, a party of incoming revolutionists, bringing arms, it is said, having had a brush with Koords, with, it would seem, some loss on both sides, variously reported as from two to twenty or more. I am obliged to report all these things very indefinitely, as it is simply impossible to secure information on which one can rely.

An unfortunate occurrence took place only a short distance from our premises last Sat. night. A severe explosion took place in the house of some poor people, entirely demolishing one room and severely injuring several people, and it took Dr. Ussher several hours to patch up the injured people. As to this, many different stories are in circulation, the most probable one being that a young man was filling cartridges, having a pretty big quantity of powder near him, and in some way the powder ignited and did the damage. The house was owned by a poor woman who works in the hospital. I presume there is no doubt that this was revolutionary work. This class of people continues to be much in evidence in several localities among the villages, tho I do not hear much about their being in the city. It would seem to be their purpose to make great demonstrations in the spring, and of course there can be no sense of security while matters are in this state.

We have had a very unusual amount of rain-fall this autumn, with almost continuous cloudy weather in place of the usual bright autumns. The price of grain is high, not famine prices, but above the general average, tho the quantity of wheat actually existing does not seem to be specially deficient, but it is being held for a rise, and the poor people are suffering, and poverty is dreadful. In the face of all this, the collection of taxes goes on relentlessly, and utter discouragement reigns among the people. The outlook is certainly very dark, and we need the earnest prayers of all our friends, that the good Lord will find some way out for us all.

With kindest regards from wife and self, Your's most sincerely

G. C. Raynolds.

Rec'd DEC 19 1904

Van, Nov. 14th. 1904.

Ans'd DEC 28 1904

Dear Dr. Barton,

I inclose a circular letter which will tell of the situation at present. Under date of Oct. 3rd. I received a letter from Mrs. Alice Stone Blackwell, from the office of the "Woman's Journal, No. 3 Park St." asking for information as to what is taking place here. I do not know just what use could be made of information sent, and I have not time to give to such correspondence. I am wondering whether it would be well to let her have the reading of my letters to you, if you were willing to allow it. I doubt if it is wise to make much public use of these letters. I feel some doubt about the letters of mine printed in the Oct. Herald. I do not consider undesirable for such facts to be known in America, but the doubt is as to the effect they may have on the Turkish Govt. on the one hand and the revolutionists on the other. Of course both these parties see these letters, and when they are signed they bring more or less enmity to the writers. I do not shrink from doing anything which it seems my duty to do, and I do not criticise the publication of those letters, I only raise a query as to what is best. I do not know what the Woman's Journal is doing in these times, but think I should hardly wish my letters published by it, or by any papers which may be under the control of the revolutionists in America.

We are hoping by the next post to get some papers telling us more about the annual meeting. It seems to have been a good one, and I would like to have been there. Sorry that Dr. Strong was not able to be present, as we learn was the case from a good letter of Mrs. Strong's recently received in the station.

Congratulations on the coming of the new Home Secretary, and if you please, extend to him a welcome from this family, and beg that he will excuse the absence of a separate letter, in view of the pressure on my time and strength.

For the same reason will you pardon the brevity of this note and believe me, with very kindest regards from wife and self

Your's most sincerely

G. C. Raynolds

Have read Mrs. Blackwell's letter before sending it

Rev. Geo. C. Raynolds M.D.

Pam, Nov. 14, 1904

105
Rec'd DEC 27 1904

Van, Nov. 28th. 1904.

Dear Dr. Barton,

I do not know whether any one is writing you this week, and so I will send just a line to say that nothing of very special importance has occurred here during the past week. It is said that the Kaimakam, Shefket Bey, the Vali's son, has secured the Koord who was chiefly responsible for the destruction of Nareg. It is said that he told the Kooras that if they did not bring him in, he himself would leave, and so one of the better Koords undertook the job, and after an encounter in which the culpret was twice wounded, he was taken and brought in. It now remains to see what will be done with him. The Revolutionists seem to be continuing their preparations for disturbances in the spring, and I do not know as anything can be done to prevent it. We may try to draw up a statement of the situation, to present to different parties, but I do not know that anything can be hoped for from it. I think I wrote you that Dr. Ussher had proposed that I should attempt to visit Europe and try to effect something by personal interviews, tho his first motive was to procure rest and change for me. I have not felt that this last reason was so strong as he considered it, and it did not seem to me that I could hope to effect anything in the other direction, so that I was unwilling to think of going unless the Consple. friends should consider it so important as to wire me to come. So much time has now passed that I feel there is no possibility of their doing this, and so I feel entirely easy on the subject of being called away this winter. I can but feel that it would have been very ~~XXXX~~ wrong for me to leave the work here at present certainly.

We have been much interested in the reports of the Board meeting, and trust that it will now enter on a new and prosperous year. With kindest regards from us both to all friends, Your's most sincerely

G. C. Raynolds

Rec'd Dec 22 1904

Van Nov. 23rd 1904.

Dear Dr. Barton,

I do not know whether any one is writing you this week, and so I will send just a line to say that nothing of very special importance has occurred here during the past week. It is said that the Eskimos, since the Vaitt's son has seized the Koora who was chiefly responsible for a destruction of Nome. It is said that he told the Koora that if did not bring him in, he himself would in ve, and so one of the better now has undertook the job, and after an adventure in which the captive was wounded, he was taken and brought in. It now remains to see what he more with him. The Revolutionists seem to be continuing their preparations for disturbances in the spring, and I do not know as anything can be done to prevent it. We may try to draw up a statement of the situation, to present to different parties, but I do not know that anything can be proper for from sit. I think I wr to you that Mr. Baker proposed that I should attempt to visit Europe and try to effect something by personal interviews, the his first motive was to procure cost and energy for. I have not felt that this last reason was so serious as he considered it, it did not seem to me that I could hope to effect anything in the matter direction, so that I was unwilling to think of going unless the Commissioner Friends should consider it so important as to give me to go. So far has now passed that I feel there is no possibility of their coming in this, and so I feel entirely easy on the subject of being called away to water. I can but feel that it would have been very XXXX wrong for me to leave the work here at present certainly.

We have been much interested in the reports of the Koora meeting, and hope that it will now enter on a new and more successful year. With kindest regards from us both to all friends, Yours most sincerely

Sheldon Jackson

Rev. Geo. E. Lorimer, D.D.
Dear Sir
Philadelphia, Pa.

Rec'd JAN 9 1905 106

Van, Dec.10th.1904.

r Dr.Barton,

Ans'd JAN 31 1905

I have writen a letter to Misses Seymour and Bush, and as I do not know where they may be, I send to you with the request that you will kindly send to them, and if you care to do so, you are at liberty to read it first. It will tell you something of our present circumstances, and I will only add a line as to political situation. Several weeks ago a band of revolutionists coming in from Persia were surrounded by Koords and several of them killed, it is said, and later, it is reported that another band came in especially to revenge that action, and that they have punished the Koords who were responsible for the previous action, but just to what extent I do not know. It is reported, but I can not vouch for it, that the revolutionists are now working to get the Koords to join forces with them, I suppose for a general uprising in the spring, and that several of the Koordish chiefs, either thro fear or for other reasons have given them their word this to unite with them. I do not place much reliance on such a statement, but do not know what they may be able to effect.

This post brought a reply from Mr.Peet to the letters which Dr.Ussher and I wrote about my going to Europe this winter, saying that it did not seem to them hopeful that much could be effected in that way, but that it seemed better to prepare writen statements regarding the situation and do what we could with those. This is a great relief to me, and I am happy to report that I got off my S.A.Accs.last week, and that I am feeling better than when I finished my annual letters to the patrons of the children, and if I can manage to go a little lightly and get some regular exercise every day, I hope I can keep on in pretty good shape, for the present.

The suffering about us is very great, and the German friends have already sent us L 200. for relief, and it is possible that we ought to let it

be known that there is distress here, tho I very greatly dread to again begin general relief work. It is dreadfully demoralizing both to the recipients and to those who distribute it, besides adding very greatly to our burdens.

With kindest greetings and best wishes for the year so soon to begin, from wife and self to yourself and family and to our other friends at the rooms, I remain

Your's most sincerely

G. C. Raynolds.

Dr. George C. Raynolds.
San Bee. 10, 1904.

Please donot allow the words inclosed in ink marks to be published in the public prints, as the agents of the government would certainly report them to Cons'ple. and it might be used to the injury of our work. I believe the statements to be absolutely true, and shall be glad to have them used privately. The fault is not mainly that of our Vali, who wants to do the right thing, but he is obliged to carry out the strict orders received from Constantinople.

JAN 31 1905

The Situation at Van.

We feel compelled to make a statement regarding the condition of af-
airs in this city and province. For several months it has been becoming
ore and more evident that great suffering was inevitable before the win-
er should pass on account of the extreme poverty that is prevailing.
e have however shrunk from making any appeal to the public on the subject,
nowing how numerous and pressing are the calls that come to them, and es-
ecially as we could not claim that actual famine conditions exist. But
already, at the very beginning of winter, the suffering is becoming so great
nd the constant appeals of the hungry are so heartrending, that we have
ome to the conclusion that our neighbors' blood will be on our heads if we
ail to let it be known that people will be perishing from hunger unless
ssistance is sent to them.

Now for a more particular statement as to conditions existing. As I
aid above, it is not famine. There is doubtless grain enough in the prov-
nce to keep the whole population alive, were it evenly distributed. The
rouble is that the poverty has become so general and extreme that a very
large share of the people have no means for purchasing food or clothing,
ven at the low prices which have prevailed for two or three years, while
n the other hand the price of grain has nearly doubled from what it was
ast year. It may be asked why so much poverty prevails. It is due pri-
arily to the course the government has been pursuing during the last year
r two, but more especially during the last few months, in the way of collec-
ng taxes (with relentless cruelty) taking from the poor people the very ne-
essities of life, when money was not forthcoming. (The cattle which are
bsolutely indispensible to the husbandman in cultivating his fields and
ecuring a crop for the coming season, the last cow or sheep which the poor
idow has kept to furnish herself and children with food, the meagre copper
essels in daily use to cook the food, often the very clothes taken from the
erson, the bedding needed for covering at night, the grain laid in for the
inter's supply, if there was any, the fields with the crops growing upon
hem, all are mercilessly siezed and reckoned at half their real value, or
ess, to satisfy the relentless tax-gatherer, leaving the wretched people
ith no means of procuring food or clothing.) In consequence of this poli-
, business is at a stand-still, tradesmen finding no sale for their pro-
cts, are forced to close their shops, work can not be found, and those who
uld gladly labor for their bread are forced to remain in idleness and hun-
r. Under circumstances such as these, it is inevitable that there should
very great and general suffering, and the evidence that such is the case
daily becoming more and more apparent. I do not suppose that matters
ve yet reached the point where many are actually dying of hunger, but ev-
now, in the city, very many families are entirely without food or fuel,
d multitudes more have food enough to last but a very few weeks. I am
sured that in many villages the majority of the inhabitants have not more
an a month's supply of food, while there are considerable sections where
e harvests were so poor that the whole amount of food in the village will
t suffice to keep its population till spring. Even under these circum-
ances, the poor villagers are compelled to give food to passing Koords, zap-
phs and soldiers, with no remuneration and in large quantities. The con-
tion of the sick poor is particularly distressing, and appeals most strong
to our sympathy. Under these circumstances we feel that we must let
e public know the needs, hoping that we may receive a moderate amount of
d, to enable us to ward off death from hunger and mitigate the extreme suf-
ring, by giving work if possible, and free aid where this is impracticable.

In behalf of the Van Station of the American Mission, Respectfully

E. C. Raynolds.

Rev. G. C. Reynolds.

Kan.

Situation

Rec'd JAN 26 1905 108

Van, Dec. 15th. 1904.

Ans'd FEB 1 1905

Dear Dr. Barton,

I inclose you a copy of a paper which it was thought best to prepare and send out to a few representative friends, so that the situation here might be known, that so the responsibility for giving or not giving relief might be shifted from our shoulders. We have been exceedingly loth to think of again beginning general relief, not primarily because we are so crowded already that we have no time nor strength to undertake it, but because experience shows that it is so demoralizing both to the recipients and to those employed as distributors, but the suffering has become so acute that we have come to feel that it is the lesser of two evils to do what is absolutely necessary in these lines to avert the worst trouble, rather than allow people to die because we fail to let the condition be known. Anyway, we thus shift the responsibility from our shoulders, and can trust the Lord to arrange as may seem best to him. Copies of this paper are sent to Frankfort a Maine, Blankenburg, and to several parties in England.

Heavy snow and severe cold have now come, and probably we may hope for immunity from special disturbances till spring, but the revolutionists are still abundant here, and seem to be intending to make things warm in the spring, and many anticipate a general cataclysm. Should any such thing occur, it would be very important for us to have some preparation to relieve the suffering of survivors, should there be such, and we ourselves be in condition to attend to it.

We are thinking of trying to prepare another paper looking more to political conditions, for use where it might do the most good, if there is any probability of any good being accomplished anywhere. this however will not materialize before next week at earliest. The present outlook from this stand-point is certainly not bright, politically, tho it is

probable that nothing will happen before spring, as deep snow has now fallen and severe cold is upon us.

While there is so much that is depressing in other matters, the evangelistic work is more encouraging than usual. The new church gives us a good audience every Sunday here, and quite a large number of the young men go out to near villages, so that, with the more distant outstations, there are now a good many places where the Gospel is proclaimed every Sunday. Bad. Garabed is spending a good share of his time in the outside field now, having just returned from a tendays' tour, and now starting out for another of perhaps three weeks.

I am glad to say that I am feeling better than a few weeks ago, and trying to steal out for a short walk, at least, each day, but do not always succeed. Wife joins in kindest regards to yourself and family and to our other friends at the rooms and at Auburndale, and I remain

Your's most sincerely

G. C. Raynolds.

Rev. G. C. Raynolds
From
Dec. 15, 1894

Rec'd FEB 6 1905 109

Van, Dec. 20th. 1904.

Ans'd FEB 9 1905

Dear Dr. Barton,

I inclose you a paper prepared the last week, which you are at liberty to use in any way which seems to you wise. I hope to be able to send out next week a statement of specific instances to substantiate the statements regarding the conduct of the government, but I think you may be sure now that they can be substantiated.

Nothing special in political lines has happened here during the past week or two, and as deep snow now covers the whole face of the country, we may hope that quiet may prevail for the present.

In evangelistic lines there is much that is hopeful. The new church is well filled from Sunday to Sunday, not far from 1000 being present, and the city chapel is also well filled, while meetings are held regularly in three near villages, and frequently in a number more.

There is not time this morning to write at length. We had our Christmas tree celebration Sat. evening, and have a dinner this evening, when the Consul and the Eng. missionaries are expected to be present.

Accept best wishes from wife and self for the new year for yourself and family and all our friends at the rooms and in Auburndale and believe me

Your's as ever most sincerely

G. C. Raynolds.

Rev. G. C. Reynolds.

Can. Dec. 26. 1904.

Rec'd FEB 14 1905

Van, Dec. 29th. 1904.

Rec'd FEB 15 1905

Dear Dr. Barton,

I sent you last week a copy of a paper I had prepared regarding the Armenian question. After writing it, Capt. Tyrrell showed me a pamphlet reporting a meeting held last June in Lond. which stirred me up to prepare another article, of which I send you a copy herewith. It seems to us here, and to the English missionaries, and (tho this is not to be stated publicly, as he is not allowed to express himself except to the embassy,) to Capt. Tyrrell, that it might do some good to have this paper circulated. It does not seem to me that it contains anything specially calculated to stir up the Turkish government in any way which would injure us or our work, even if it fell under their eye, and tho it would doubtless anger the revolutionists, we are inclined to think it might be well to give it publicity in the papers. The former article would be more likely to injure us with the Govt; and after this one, that may not need to be published, tho perhaps it might still profitably be circulated somewhat privately, to represent the Turkish phase of the question. You may think it wise to bring this to the attention of the President. If this case is given to the papers, you would know to what ones it is best to send it. I would suggest that Dr. Talcott Williams might care to see it.

You will be sorry to learn that we find ourselves suddenly precipitated into a cholera epidemic. For some weeks we have been hearing that there was much sickness of a suspicious nature among the soldiers, and that many of them were dying, but the officials persistently denied it, and gave no chance to examine it, but last Sunday a case occurred close by us, and next day another, both fatal, and Dr. Ussher was able to make a post mortem and this positively confirmed the diagnosis we had already made.

The snow keeps piling up as we have not seen it since the very early

years of our residence here, and the weather is cold, which would give hope of checking the disease, but the soldiers are said to be dying off 15 to 20 daily, and an unknown number of cases among the Turks, with at least four fatal cases among the Armenians.

We have to report a pleasant Christmas, a tree Sat. Eve. and a dinner on Mond. at which the four English friends were present.

I do not see as I am likely to see the time when I can sit down and write a separate letter of welcome to Sec. Patton, and so I am going to ask you again to express to him our best wishes for the success of the important work which he is undertaking, and our satisfaction ~~which~~ with his coming from the hope that his aid may be blessed to help forward an advance in gifts to the Board, enabling it to take some of the forward steps so important in many parts of the world.

Again wife joins in best wishes for the new year for yourself and all our friends whom you may see, and I remain

Your's most sincerely.

G. C. Raynolds.

Rec. Dec. 29, 1904.

Rec'd FEB 15 1905

A Paper on some phases of the Armenian Question, by Rev. G.C. Raynolds, for thirty two years a missionary of the American Board in Van, Turkey.

In the following paper I desire to express some views on the subject of the condition of the Armenian People and their relations to the Turkish Government and to the European Powers, which may differ from those of some of the friends of this people, here and abroad. Allow me then to preface my remarks by saying that a residence of more than thirty years in Van, my work being with and for the Armenians, has given me some opportunity to understand the situation. I trust that the work which has occupied those years, especially the extensive relief and orphanage work of the last ten years, in Sassoon and Van, is sufficiently well known to prove me to be a friend of the Armenian people.

I would say frankly at the outset that it is my purpose to protest against a certain phase of the work that is being done professedly for the advancement of the Armenian cause.

I will not take time to speak of the atrocities which have been committed by the Moslem population, official and unofficial, upon the Armenians. These have been sufficiently set forth in various ways. I may as well say that there has recently come to my hand a copy of a report of an "International Conference on the Situation in the Near East," held in London June 20th. 1904. It is its perusal which especially moves me to prepare the present paper. I would say that the statements contained in the two papers, "Note on the Historical Background" by H.N. Brailsford, and "Brief Account of the Recent Massacres" by G.R. Malloch, seem to me to be in the main truthful, so far as they set forth the conduct of the Turkish Government and the Moslem population of the Empire. So it is unnecessary for me to take space here to speak of that aspect of the question.

When I came to Turkey thirtyfive years ago, the treatment of the Armenian and other Christians by the Turkish Government was exceedingly objectionable, as is detailed in those articles. It was evidently very important that a cure for these evils should be found. Education and intelligence had already so spread among the Armenians as to arouse them to an understanding of their disabilities, and they were becoming restive under them. Not many years after my coming here, M. Portucalian came to Van and opened a school, which became the centre for the cultivation of an Armenian national spirit and self-consciousness. This beginning gradually developed into what has since become known as "The Armenian Revolutionary Movement." The special object of this paper is to inquire whether the giving this direction to the movement was wise and has proved useful. That there was a crying need for a remedy is very evident. Did Revolutionism give reasonable promise, and has it given proof of being the remedy sought for? I do not deny that the grievance was sufficient to give occasion for such a movement, when other and peaceful means had proved unavailing. But to justify revolution, not merely a just grievance, but reasonable expectation of obtaining a cure is essential, otherwise revolutionary movements must only intensify the evils already existing. From the incipiency of this movement, it has been my firm persuasion, constantly expressed, that this reasonable expectation was utterly lacking. The situation of the Armenians, scattered among a more numerous and far better armed Moslem population, with only occasional, small, local areas where the Moslems were not in the majority, the latter having all the power of the government, local and general to back them, made it absurd to suppose that independence could be won by any unsupported efforts of the Armenians. The lack of suitable leaders, and the difficulty of securing harmonious action among themselves would

make the difficulty many fold greater. The Armenians themselves seem to have appreciated this difficulty, and I have not heard that they even expect or desire such an outcome of their efforts. They always say that it is only by the intervention of the European Powers that they can hope to have their condition improved, and that their action has the attaining of this assistance for its object. The discussion of what is really the duty of neighboring Powers toward a people thus oppressed and down-trodden, it is not my purpose here to enter upon. That from the Armenian standpoint, such intervention was desirable there is no question. The point is Were revolutionary measures those best calculated to secure this end, and if so considered, would the results hoped for justify the expense involved? First then, If the evils already existing were sufficient to justify intervention, should additional outrage be demanded before such assistance was proffered? It seems to me that Humanity, not to say Christianity, can give but one answer to this question. Even if it were considered that the then present situation was not sufficiently critical to justify intervention, yet surely, a policy on the part of the oppressed, whose avowed purpose was to stir up their oppressors to commit outrage can not be justified. But second, would the hoped for results justify the expense involved. By expense I do not mean pecuniary expense chiefly, but the expense of life and suffering, for if the aggregate loss in these directions is likely to be as great or greater as that from existing evils, there better to "bear those ills we have, than fly to others that we know not of."

Now it is my contention that revolutionary activity not only has not accomplished the end aimed at, but was not calculated to accomplish it, and that thus failing, it has been the occasion of many times increasing and intensifying all the evils which previously existed. Let us seek the proof of this, and it is natural for me to seek it where I am familiar with the

facts, here in Van. When the movement inaugurated by M. Porticalian, to which I have alluded, began to attract the attention of the government, it immediately occasioned a marked increase of hostility to the Armenians, and the beginning of a repressive policy, which grew in strength, causing the issuance of orders against the existence of societies for self-culture, or the gathering of Armenians in any meetings, beyond those of a definitely religious nature, in the churches. This policy reached its worse point during the rule of Bahre Pasha, when the prisons were filled with so called political prisoners, and repression was practiced in most objectionable forms. The article mentioned above "The Historical Background" at the bottom of page 5 of the pamphlet in question, gives a general account of the history of those times. One who reads it carefully will see that the change of policy on the part of the Sultan, there mentioned, was the natural outcome of the revolutionary propaganda, thro the Hinchak Society, and that the formation of the Hamidieh Cavalry and other methods of repression were occasioned by this revolutionary activity. This policy on the part of the Turks went on gathering in strength as the revolutionary agitation became more patent, and culminated in the massacres of 1894 - 6, which horrified the civilized world, and whose history, all too well remembered, is told in the article alluded to. It is certainly true that up to the time of the Sassonn massacre of 1894 began, there had been no overt act on the part of the revolutionary leaders, which gave the shadow of just occasion for military interference, or anything beyond the arrest of a few men. Of course nothing could justify the outrages of those terrible months, or of the two following years throughout the country. But that the known character of the Turk would lead one to expect some such outbreak of savagery, upon the provocation given, is certainly true, and hence conduct on the part of a

the Armenians which might naturally be expected to lead to such a result was unwise and cruel in the extreme. On page 59 of the pamphlet, the Rev. Canon McColl alludes to a sentance in Ahmed Bey's speech " That the Armenians themselves were the cause of their own massacres." He then goes on to say that these massacres were deliberately planned by the Sultan, etc. Now what I would say is this; However deliberately they may have been planned, and however we may and must condemn the barbarism and outrage of all this terrible history, it is nevertheless true that this page of savagery would never have had to be writen if the revolutionary irritation had not been applied. The article on " Recent Massacres "details the events of the present year at Sassoon and Moush. From reliable information at hand I think there are some exaggerations in the account, as to the part the Kooras are said to have taken and as to the number of the slain, but admitting that it is substantially correct in the details of what the soldiers have done, yet it is a patent fact, apparent even from this account itself, that bands of revolutionists from across the border had been gathering in Sassoon for some time before these disturbances began, having gone there wi with the avowed purpose of causing the government to do just what it was expected to do, and what it actually did do. It is also true that these revolutionary bands did compell the poor villagers of Sassoon and Moush to buy arms, often at the cost of selling cattle or other property absolutely essential to the proper carrying on of their work, and that since then the government has collected most of these arms, so that they have been the means of strengthening the Moslems and not the Christians, while bringing punishment on the latter. I presume no one would deny that the affair of this year would not have taken place had it not been for the gathering in considerable numbers of these insurrectionary bands, and hence it is cer-

tainly true "that the Armenians themselves were the cause (or at least occasion) of" this " massacre." Now a similar policy is being inaugurated in the Van vilayet. That our good Vali, Tahir Pasha, does not desire any massacre or disturbance here, his conduct has given abundant evidence, but despite his efforts, the simple presence of these bands without any act of overt violence on their part, has already brought the city to the verge of massacre, keeping the people in terror for a whole week, and has occasioned the looting and burning of the fair village of Nareg, with the murder of a score of its inhabitants. The Vali has done very well in the punishment of the perpetrators of the latter outrage, but it is clear that it is impossible to expect that these bands can continue here, even as they are now, without constant danger of general disturbance breaking out, certainly as soon as the spring shall clear away the snow. But it is the general impression that it is their intention, when the spring opens, to take the initiative, and do something which will compel action on the part of the Turks. Now all this is with the plain knowledge, from past experience, that a general massacre would be precipitated, very probably far more sweeping and inhuman than any that have preceeded it. I would inquire how anyone can characterize such conduct as this in terms any milder than wholesale, premeditated and useless murder?

The object of this paper is to help avert, if possible, this dire disaster, which distinctly threatens the home of my adoption. I know the people among whom I have lived for thirty years, and love them. Hundreds of them have been under my care in our schools, to thousands of them I have ministered in medical and other capacities, I look upon them as my neighbors and fellow townsmen, and I can not look forward with complacency to the possibility of seeing these streets again deluged in blood, these houses given

rom the first it has been distinctly opposed to religion, morality and spi-
ituality. Many, tho not all, of those who have come here to propagate its
loctrines have been men of immoral lives and infidel beliefs. The effect
on those coming under their influence has been almost uniformly injurious,
and any tendencies toward a religious life previously manifested have been
speedily eradicated. It has been the open preaching and practice that any
means were justifiable in attaining the end desired. Theft and robbery
have been exceedingly common, our own premises having been twice thus inva-
ded, while forced contributions have been very often wrung from the people
by fear and threats, a considerable number of Armenians, of more or less prom
inence having been murdered because not sufficiently subservient to their
purposes. That these practices still continue is proved by the murder, a
few weeks since, of Arsen Vartabed, the locum tenens of the Catholicate of
Akhtamar, and his secretary, besides that of three others of more or less
prominence. In short, they have introduced a moral malaria into the com-
munity which decades of religious work can not overcome. Secondly, the po-
litical condition of the people, instead of being improved, has been made
very many fold worse, thro the efforts of the government to counteract its
influence. Compare conditions today with those thirty years ago, and we
shall find that there are less than half the then number of Armenians re-
siding in the vilayet, while the property now in their possession is not a
tenth of what it was even fifteen years ago. The safety of travel is ve-
ry much less than then, and the oppressions of the Koords are very much grea-
er than then. It seems to me that this is a quite sufficient arraignment
of the policy of revolution, and demonstrates that it is not the cure for
existing evils, but if persisted in, will only continue in the future, as it
has done in the past, to intensify the difficulties which surround the peo-

as food for the flames, these friends butchered before my eyes. I feel perfectly sure that nothing of this sort will take place unless revolutionary irritation shall give occasion for it. It is evident that any appeal to the men on the ground to desist from this course of conduct will be unavailing, and hence I would appeal to those in other lands, who may perhaps be able to influence the situation, to call off the agitators, and so secure the withdrawal of this useless menace to the lives and property of thousands of unoffending men, women and children. I do not believe that the kind, Christian friends in Europe and England and America, who have so generously labored to relieve the distress in this land atall understand that they are liable to help bring about the evils here mentioned by encouraging those who are responsible for this agitation. As to the probable effect of such meetings as the one reported in the pamphlet reviewed, I would say that unless they lead to real, prompt and efficient action, which shall bring about reforms, they are in danger of doing more harm than good, by adding their share to the irritation which causes the Turkish government to pursue its objectionable methods. After so many years of such agitation, the dearth of good results would seem to raise the question, Is this sort of work useful? As to the hopefulness of good results from such gatherings, those engaged in the work can judge better than I. I would at any rate intreat that a halt be imperatively called in the local agitation in this country which can only result in dire disaster to a large population in this centre. Please let them carefully consider that those who intentionally incite others to commit acts of savagery, are scarcely, if atall, less guilty than those who commit them.

May I be pardoned a few further remarks concerning the nature and influence of this movement. And first, as to its moral effect on the people.

ple, and may lead to their extermination.

I trust that it will be evident that this paper is prompted only by a sincere desire to secure the best interests of all parties concerned.

On the one hand that of the Turkish Government, whose best interest it most certainly is to protect its subjects, and give them the benefit of just laws, in order that they may be able to give a satisfactory income to the government thro the taxes. In those sections of this vilayet where the Armenian population has been made to give place to a Koordish population, not only the products upon which taxes are collected have very greatly diminished, but a much smaller proportion of the taxes justly due can be collected, and hence a very serious diminution of income from the vilayet has occurred. Just treatment and efficient protection granted to the Armenians would make them its most desirable and productive class of subjects.

On the other hand, the Armenians can find no other place where so many privileges and opportunities are likely to be granted them, or where they can to so considerable an extent retain their national organization and religion. In Russia such priveleges are being more and more curtailed, and those who emigrate to western lands are soon swallowed up in the population in which they are immersed and lose all national organization.

In opposing revolutionary methods, we are only seeking the removal of what has injured instead of helping the prospects of the people in order that some more hopeful and helpful means may be discovered.

Rev. G. C. Raynolds, M.D.
Missionary of the American Board.

Van, Dec. 29th. 1904.

Turkey. Dec. 29, 1904

REC'D FEB 17 1905
ANS'D FEB 17 1905

Van, Jan. 9th. 1905.

Dear Dr. Barton,

There is time but for a line to acknowledge, not answer, your good letter of Nov. 29th. I think it was, which only reached us last evening. Snow is so very heavy that posts are greatly delayed, and I suppose the same is true of the outgoing posts, so that some papers which we have prepared concerning the political situation and sent by the last two posts will be late in reaching their destinations. I am glad to hear what you say about Mr. Bryce's position as I feared from the pamphlet which my paper reviews, that he was not as careful as was desirable in that direction.

I believe I reported last week the cholera epidemic, and it has kept Dr. Ussher exceedingly busy the past week, there have been 20 or 30 or more cases among the Armenians, and very many more among the Turks and soldiers. The military officers and doctors still deny and try to conceal its existence among the soldiers, tho I presume a good many hundreds have died, and are still dying. This policy of smashing the fire bell does not usually protect the city from conflagrations and is not doing so here. If the disease had been recognised, acknowledged and cared for at the beginning, it is probable that the spread of the disease might have been prevented. Dr. Ussher thinks there are signs that it is growing a little lighter, and he is using with considerable success a new treatment hich he found mentioned in one of his books, the administration of quinine in 10 grain. hourly doses, which seems to kill the germs without having its usual effect on the nervous system.

You will be glad to know that in the walled city there is a good deal of religious interest, and the meetings are crowded even at 6 1/2 P.M. and much desire for religious truth is manif sted, and the meetings are to be continued another week. Here too the meetings have been fully attended,

and are to be continued another week, and we hope for much good from them. They are held at sundown, which proves to be a very favorable time for them.

With kindest regards from us both to yourselves and all friends

Your's most sincerely

J. C. Raynolds.

Rev. J. C. Raynolds
Jan. 9. 1905.

Rec'd FEB 27 1905

Van, Jan. 16th. 1905.

Dear Friends,

You may like a report of cholera conditions in Van. Dr. Ussher says he has seen 21 cases during the last week, of whom 16 were Armenians, and of the latter 4 died. Among the Turks there have been many cases and many deaths, but no means of getting exact statistics as they conceal them even from the government, one reason being that they object to the Govt. order to bury in lime. Some of them however are beginning to take a little more care, and Dr. Ussher hopes that the disease may be lightening up a little among them and the soldiers, tho not very much. There seems little doubt that not less than 1000 soldiers have died, and still the effort is made by the military authorities to cover up and deny the existence of the disease. Dr. Ussher now has a separate hospital for this disease in a hired house not far away. He finds the quinine treatment, ten Grs. every hour as long as may be necessary, is nearly always successful in killing the microbes and saving the patient, if the medicine is begun in time. He has given as many as 8 doses in this way without finding the usual effect of quinine on the nervous system. Most of the schools in the city were closed two or three weeks ago, but we tried to continue ours, only excluding children from houses where the disease existed, but it was found that the smaller children could not be trusted, and so only the older boys were allowed to continue till the end of the term last Friday.

We have more snow this year than for many years, so that a pretty effective quarantine is thus provided without any action of the Govt. as travel is pretty much impossible and the post is a fortnight behind its regular time. In the same way revolutionary activity is pretty well prevented.

The daily prayer-meetings were well attended thro the week of prayer, and equally so during last week, and are to be continued at least a while this week. At our garden church there have been from 150 to 300, besides the orphans at the evening services, while on Sunday the church is crowded, from 1000 to 1200 being present. At the Friday and Sat. evening and Sunday morning meetings a pretty large number expressed their determination to live for Christ either by prayer or address or by rising in their places. In the city the meetings are later in the evening and the chapel is filled not to say crowded, and there seems a good deal of evidence of the presence of the Spirit at both places tho not the general flocking into the Kingdom which we want to see. In the villages also there is a good deal of interest. At Artemid yesterday, Mr. Yarrow and one of the young men had an audience of nearly 150 in the church, and interesting meetings are held in other near villages as well. At Nareg, the burned village, the people are mostly back, after a fashion, and the school has 130 pupils, and meetings are held evenings and Sundays, with good attendance. At a village named Bardents, there is a man named Kevork who has been known as an earnest Christian for several years and he has endured much persecution from his brothe the villagers and from Arsen Vartabed and the Bishop who has succeeded as <u>locum tenens</u> at Akhtamar, both of whom are relatives of his. Kevork stood firm and done what he could to tell the villagers of Jesus, and yesterday he told me that he had long desired very greatly to have at least few who should sympathize with him in his new experience, and that now desire is being fulfilled, some 20 or 25 attending the meetings which holds, and perhaps 15 having a good deal of sympathy for him. He has lt a school room mainly at his own expense and hopes soon to have a ool started.

Yours most sincerely G. C. Raynolds

Rev. G. L. Raymond.

Jan. Turkey. Jan. 16. 1905.

REC'D FEB 27 1905 114

Van, Jan. 21st. 1905.

ANS'D MAR 22 1905

r Dr. Barton,

I inclose herewith two or three copies of my orphanage report. m sending copies direct to our patrons, but you may care to give to some ners. I would mention a subject about which there has been some recent correspondence. Our associates, including Mr. McDowell, of the Pres. Mission, nt out a letter to a few friends in Eng. and Germany, not long since, suggesting that a helper was needed in the work, which has hitherto fallen to especially, and that letter has elicited several very kind replies. Harrises and other friends in Eng. were ready to pledge Ls 60. per annum r several years, Pastor Lohmann was willing to send a man entirely at his n expense, and now Mr. Brooks, of Duvals, Grays, Essex, writes that they have ard of some one who might be willing to come at his own expense. Dr. sher has writen to him that it would be desirable that whoever came ould be recognised as a missionary of the Board, so that he might have a ght to vote on station matters and so that it would be appropriate to ss over the treasury to his care in large part. I mention this so that any correspondence on the subject should reach you, you might understand the situation. Should the suggestion for an industrial colony, contained in my report, meet with approval, it is probable that the funds would come largely from Germany, and the man whom Pastor Lohmann offers might properly devote his time to the superintendence of that work.

There is another matter about which I wish to speak. In my Dec. Acc. under "Charges not under appropriations," I introduced two items, "Extra repairs on premises, LT 50." and Insurance of Buildings, as per Oct. statement LT 17. 90." Mr. Peet writes that he is not authorized to accept these two charges, as they must come from the regular appropriations. Now let me call

your attention to a few facts. The whole appropriation which we now receive, outside of womans' work, & Salaries is LT 150. Of this L 25. goes for one half the pastor's salary, L 12.28 went this year for taxes, L 6.68 for postage, and L 10.99 for touring, leaving L 93.96 for education, which, with the L 40. we were able to collect from tuition, was not sufficient to support the school on our premises, which had to be supplemented by charging the salary of some of the teachers to the orphanage. We paid for village schools L 52.58, all of it contributed by our kind friends in Germany, while it was the nearly L 90. contributed by friends in England that enabled us to carry on the village evangelistic work. The present distribution of the appropriations to the F. T.M. were divided among the stations many years ago. But one mission meeting has been held during the last eleven years, and I think a slight modification of the percentage was then made in favor of this station. But since that time there have been erected here, without any expense to the Board, several buildings used by the orphanage, a hospital and dispensary, and a church, new ground having been purchased for the three latter. Now the orphanage contributes over L 100. per annum for the repair of buildings and furniture, etc. on the premises, but L 45. per annum, the amount considered as rent for the houses of the missionaries, is all that the Board contributes toward keeping all these other buildings and premises in repair, and it must be apparent that this is altogether inadequate. The erection of the new church has necessitated a considerable change in the arrangement of the premises, and the erection of several long walls, while my funds have unfortunately given out. Some contributions for these purposes have come in, but not sufficient to meet the needs. Now in view of the fact that little, if any addition has been made to the appropriations during the last dozen years, while the general work has so

decidedly grown, it would certainly seem that the Board should not require that those former inadequate appropriations should now be made to cover the repairs and insurance on all these new buildings which have been donated to the Board during this period, and I can not believe that the Prudential Committee will permit matters to stand in this way. If hereafter, as we hope, the sum hitherto paid for taxes is saved, it certainly ought to go for touring expenses, since with the large number of villages occupied and accesible, and the increased missionary force, much more time and expense should be given to that department. I would then most respectfully ask that this matter be brought to the attention of the Prud. Com. and they be urged to provide for at least the two items mentioned in this letter for the year now past.

The situation regarding the cholera epidemic does not differ very materially from that given last week.

The prayer meetings have been continued to the present time, well attended, and there have been a pretty large number who have openly confessed Christ during the last week.

With kindest regards from wife and self to yourself and family and to all friends at the rooms, I remain

Yours most sincerely

G. C. Raynolds.

Rev. T. C. Reynolds.

San. Turkey. Jan. 21. 1905.

REC'D MAR 10 1905

Van, Feb. 6th. 1905.

ar Friends,

Nothing of very special importance has transpired here during e last week. Cholera seems to be lightening up, tho not yet entirely sappeared. You may be interested in the weather record of Van for the nth of January. The average of the mimimum record for the month was above 0, F. Of the maximum was 36, the lowest maximum being 25, and the west minimum - 7. Seven times it went below 0. I think this has been e coldest month we have seen in Van, tho we have seen a lower single re-ord a few times, but I think seven times below 0 in a month is unpreceden-d. Of course this increases the suffering of the poor.

The younger members of the station have indulged in tobagganing with od success and much enjoyment, a few times.

Attendance at services continues full. Last Friday evening there ust have been from 300 to 400 present outside of the orphans. Yesterday he church was jamed, pretty certainly over 1200 present, and at the S.S. fter the orphans and some other classes had gone out, there were over 700 resent. These numbers pretty much swamp us both in the matter of place nd of teachers, especially as quite a number of those suitable for teach-rs go to near villages almost every Sunday. At several villages they ave from 50 to 150 hearers, often in the churches.

At the first communion of the year here one new member was received, nd at the city two. The attendance and interest in the city are as unusual as here. pretty large number of the orphans give good reason to hope that they ave found the Savior.

The government is continuing its intolerable oppression in the line f tax collecting, and the wretched people are utterly discouraged and be-ming desperate, a state of affairs calculated to increase the danger from e revolutionists. Only in the Lord can we place our hope and we ask ur friends to join us in earnest supplication for His interposition.

With hearty greetings from wife and self

Yours most sincerely

E. C. Raynolds.

Van Turkey. Feb. 6. 1905.

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APR 14 1905

Van, Feb.15th.1905.

ear Friends,

Yesterday, Sunday, was a day of special excitement for us here. wo or three times during the last few weeks, a reputed relic, the spear wh. ierced the Savior, has been brought out and circulated for veneration with he expressed purpose of averting the cholera epidemic. Last Sunday week r. Ussher, in his sermon, alluded to this matter and spoke of its folly and in, and one or two people in the congregation made objections and a few ent out. The incident has caused considerable talk and discussion during he week. Yesterday morning, a writing was posted on the door of the nearst Armenian church, containing scurrilous statements regarding the Protesants and those who attend our services. At our noon service, when Bad. arabed rose to give out the hymn, a man in the congregation got up and beun to demand explanations concerning the matter of the relic, and when Bad. arabed told him that that was not the time and place to discuss the matter nother man in the rear of the church also began to talk, and when these ear him tried to get him to sit down, he threatened, it is said to come up o the pulpit and beat us, and as the brethren attempted to put him out, and general melee ensued within the church and outside, which lasted nearly alf an hour before the police arrived on the scene. We had some intimeion of evil intentions, and had secured the presence of one Armenian police efore, but he was utterly powerless to do anything. Two or three of our rethren were somewhat injured, and had watches, etc. stolen, but no very soious wounds were suffered. After the coming of the police had restored uiet, the service was resumed, and it and the S.S. went on as usual, save for he delay of an hour in time, the with somewhat diminished numbers. We ave not yet decided what course to take regarding the matter, but as it as already been this brought to the attention of the government, it is ite likely we shall ask for the arrest and imprisonment of two or three f the ring-leaders, but we shall seek to take such a position as to avoid he appearance of revengeful feelings toward them. Dr. Ussher was at the ity yesterday, and a company of rowdies were present there also, apparently ith the purpose of making a disturbance, but the Spirit seems so to have nfluenced them that, tho their leader made several attempts to start them he others did not respond, and the service was not interfered with. I do ot think that there is any very general approval of the course these rowies have taken, tho the reverence for the relic seems to be pretty general. t is not believed that the revolutionists are the instigators of this affair, but the times are exceedingly critical, and caution needs to be exerised to do nothing which can possibly lead to political complications.

Nearly two weeks have passed with no new cases of cholera among the renians, and it has certainly greatly diminished among the soldiers, and begin to be hopeful that it has disappeared and will not remain to do am when warm weather comes, but we must not be too sanguine.

The weather continues cold, thermometer last night marked only 5° above and the suffering from poverty, hunger and nakedness is very great, and we an do but little toward its relief with the very limited funds at our disal. We are feeding over 500 widows and orphans in the city, and are being a limited work among the villages.

Yours in haste but most sincerely

G. C. Raynolds.

.S. Since writing the above an official representative of the Arachnort has called to express regret for the occurrence.

C. C. Raynolds

Jan. Turkey, Feb. 13, 1905

Rec'd MAR 27 1905

Van, Feb. 20th. 1905.

Ans'd APR 14 1905

ar Dr. Barton,

Your kind favor of Dec. 28th. has just come to hand, as posts have en greatly delayed. Thanks for all the interest you are taking in our lfare, and it is a great comfort to us all that we know that so much pray- is going up for us from so many places. I fear I sent a letter to you st week without a signature, viz. about a house for the Yarrows. I pur- sely left it thinking I might want to add something, and then there were many things pressing on Monday that I got rattled, and came near not nding it atall, but I hope it reached you and that you understood whom it ame from. Today I send you a copy of the station report. It was thought estto mimeograph it and to send to a considerable number of friends with the hope of increasing interest in our work and so in the general work of e Board. The tabular view is not yet quite ready, but will be ere long trust. You will be glad to know that yesterday passed without any dis- rbance, tho some threats had been made. The arachnort called the offen- ers and talked to them, but did not compell them to come to us and apolo- ise as we had requested, and in his letter to us put considerable blame on s, first for the remarks that occasioned the trouble and for the action of our people in forcibly expelling the disturbers, but it is said that they ad a meeting yesterday at one of the churches in which he spoke very well bout our work and warned the people to refrain from disturbance. This eeting was not held just at the hour of our service, as we rather expected t would be, but at an hour which admitted of attending our service also. do not know how much effort has been made to keep people from coming to ur church, but the attendance was not much diminished yesterday.

Mrs. Ussher's friends sent her some clippings from a Boston paper con-

cerning affairs here, telling of disturbances between the different bod of revolutionists, which it would seem must have been prompted by some the Armenists in your vicinity, and which were certainly much exaggerated as matters of history. That there is a good deal of friction between these different societies is true, and quite recently they did have a fight in a village, in which I believe one man was killed. It is the Tashnagists who are now trying to rule things and intend to make some demonstrations, while the policy of the Armenists is to wait for some favorable opportunity to accomplish their objects, in the mean time doing what they can to educate the people and benefit them. At present the Hinchagists, I bel are joining the Armenists. That the situation continues extremely c cal there can be no doubt. Suffering from poverty is also increasin before long it would seem that actual deaths from hunger must be expe in some villages at least. We are now attempting a little relief in few of the worst villages, but the funds now in hand will not go very Cholera seems to have disappeared, at least for the present.

With kindest regards from wife and self for all friends at the Round,

Yours most sincerely

G. C. Raynolds.

Rev. G. C. Raynolds.
Feb. 20, 1896.
Van.

PC

Rec'd APR 17 1905 118

VanMarch 4th.1905.

Dear Dr.Barton,

Nothing particular to tell this week,except that you may know that we continue well,and no disturbance has taken place or been specially threatened.

Rec'd APR 21 1905

I think you have known about a man named Davit Paghchoian,who has been in the University at Los Angeles,Cal.for some years,and left the U.S.for the east last fall. You will be glad to know that he reached Van this week,having spent a few weeks at Urumia. He seems an unusually spiritually minded man,and we can but hope that the Lord has a good work for him to do here. It is too soon yet to say what special field will open before him,but it is not impossible that the people may call him as their pastor.

Some more funds having come for the poor,from Germany,we are continuing and extending somewhat our relief work. Its difficulty is increased by the danger of raising the price of wheat if we buy,or if we give money, of the insatiable tax collectors getting hold of it. This work increases my burdens and the nervous strain is pretty wearing,but I hope the Lord will give strength for what He wishes me to do.

With regard to the house for Mr.Yarrow,what I wrote in my previous letter was intended to be understood as writen on behalf of the station,to whom it was submitted,but perhaps this fact should have been more clearly indicated. I do not know as we can really make much more definite estimates than those there given.Our workmen made an estimate from a plan submitted to them,which did not include hardware,paint,etc.which amounted to Lt 170.but I doubt if we can expect to keep it at quite so low a figure, and I considered Lt 300.as a figure which we might hope to make suffice for the building. The plan drawn is a little larger than our house,for

we find that now we need somewhat larger rooms than sufficed when the work began, and it was thought wise to provide for accommodations for at least one single lady worker. When the first houses were built the price of material and work was higher than now, and the average cost was about Lt 400 for each house, and I doubt if there is another station where such a house could be built for less that Lt 400. now. Please consider this as a definite request from the station, and it may be best to send out an intersessional vote to the other stations also.

Wife joins in kindest regards to yourself and family and to all our friends at the rooms, and believe me

Yours faithfully

G. C. Raynolds.

P.S. When this matter was talked over in the station meeting, I found to my surprise that the letter to Dr. Ussher, which I had understood to refer to the Yarrow house, really had reference to the Artemid house, and so what I have said was unnecessary, but in view of your remark in that letter that such a request should regularly come thro the mission, we have thought it best in the case of the Yarrow house to send out an intersessional vote, which goes to the stations today. As this was being sent, the station thought it best also to send one asking the Prud. Com. to grant a furlough to my wife and self at such time as may seem to the station wise and suitable.

P.C.

Rev. G. C. Raynolds.

Jan. Turkey. Mar. 4. 1905.

APR 28 1905

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Van, March 18th. 1905.

Dear Friends,

In Dec. last a statement of the economic conditions existing in this city and province was prepared and sent out to a few friends. I am thankful to say that, in response to this appeal, a few hundred lires have been sent to us for distribution, and we are trying to use it in the way to do the most possible toward relieving suffering. In the city we are using it 5 per week, partly in the way of free relief to those both destitute of all means of livelihood and unable to work, and partly by giving out work to spin to those who are able to do this work. In this way some 200 persons are given a small ration, nearly all of them widows and orphans.

At present we are also giving a little help in outlying villages. Two men were sent to the district of Hoigatsen, 15 miles south of the city, and given 1 100 to distribute to those whom they found absolutely hungry. After the first round they returned with reports showing a state of affairs far worse than we had anticipated. As a sample they brought a detailed report of one of the worst villages, Haradents by name, from which we find that it contains 26 families with 128 souls. Of these 16 families still possess cattle, one having 4, another 3, one 2, three 1 and seven 0 total 11. 15 families have none, and that the condition of a farmer with no cattle with which to cultivate his fields must be can be easily understood. There are 1 ass in the village, 14 families having one each, two have 2 each, while 18 have none. There are 112 sheep, two families have 20 each, one has 14 & two have 10, while there are 13 families which have none. Of goats there is not any kind, as 7 of these also report no debts, it is probable they were always poor, but one family which has no animal and no food owes the largest debt, viz. 2000 Pa. or 1s 6d. They apparently having no property of any kind and still does not encumber the whole of next year's crop, so far as participate. 5 families report debts varying from the 2000 Pa. above to 50, the average debt of the village being 4500 Pa. or money, besides what will use for taxes, besides which 6/24 of the crop sold for money, leaving but 1/24 as yet in their possession. Probably the price has not been as low as at present in that part of Asia, one 90 pounds, another 74 days, others 5, 4, etc., while in 13 houses nothing was left to report. Probably this does not mean that the unfortunate people will find absolutely nothing to eat beyond this, roots, bark of trees, flax seed and such coarse food will help, but when mixed with the small amount we are able to afford them. But every village is as badly off as this one, and in some of the villages there may be a majority of the people who have provisions to carry them till spring opens, and if the price of food were done from the entirely artificial price at which it is held, probably more than half the whole population of the province may be in some way to get life, the in only instances at the cost of their future by selling absolute necessities. At least one village in the region mentioned is worse off than the one described, or there being associated. Scattered as we are people in remote towns. Other villages resemble Haradents except that the people have been able to sell their flocks themselves as well as the crops. From

d

some items the villages grade up to where only a minority of the poor will be starving. Already the fear starvation are coming in from city and villages. Help is very greatly needed.

Yours most sincerely

G. C. Raynolds.

Dr. G. C. Raynolds

Van, Turkey. Mar. 18-'05.

(2 copies)

Rec'd APR 28 1905

/20

Van, March 18th. 1905.

Ans'd MAY 8 1905

Dear Dr. Barton,

This week's post brought your favor of Feb. 10th. and I am glad to know that you appreciated the paper which that letter acknowledges.

I am also very much interested in what you write about the movement in Phila. to do something for the Armenians in the line of industrial relief. My own mind has been running much in this direction of late, since it seems utterly impossible to send out our orphan boys unless some provision can be made by which they can support themselves when they go out. I have hope that our German friends will be inclined to do something in this line, but the need is likely to be great enough to usefully employ all the capital which is likely to be sent from anywhere. I hope to begin a little agricultural work, in a small way, and as an experiment, this summer. I hope we can thus give a number of the large boys who ought to go out, employment by which they can support themselves in providing the vegetables we need for ourselves and perhaps have some to sell outside. We hope that a man from Germany, now at the German colony near Amasia, and familiar with farming in this country, may come. At least for the present, I presume one agriculturist will suffice for Van, and perhaps, if the Phila. friends should send out a man, it might be one familiar with manufacturing and general business. If protection from Govt. oppression and Koordish depredations can be secured, I should think there ought to be no question about capital being kept intact, or even earning a reasonable interest, while at the same time a large number of people can be given a living without being constantly outraged by the Govt. For instance. Shadakh is a district where the people live by weaving the Angora goat's hair into various fabrics. They are industrious and skillful, but of late years, these various oppressions have reduc-

ed them to the place where they can not get the capital to lay in the hair, and they are intreating that we start industrial relief there. Probably £1320. £300 would suffice to establish a centre there by means of which the whole community might be able to live and at the same time ~~earn~~ a fair dividend accrue to the holders of the capital. I should think that those engaging in such business, whether from America or Germany or England might well so join forces as to employ common directors and economize thus in expenses. Mrs. Ussher has already started a lace making industry, which already gives employment to some fifty individuals. The cotton work alluded to in the accompanying circular, gives employment to some 500 individuals, and so contributes toward the support of about 2000 individuals, by the spinning department, while about 40 more are helped by it to weave the yarn thus spun, so that some 2500 individuals are now being helped by the industries we have started. The present object is to help the people and not to secure dividends, so that the work is done at some loss of capital, but in ordinary times it could be run so as to make something and at the same time enable the employes to gain a livelihood. I doubt if any part of Turkey is any more needy of this kind of help than Van and Bitlis, but I do not know whether the Bitlis people would care to go into this sort of thing or not. I think economic and political conditions in these two vilayets are much worse than farther west. End of city

As to the immediate danger of massacre and disturbance, I can not give any very satisfactory reason for the feeling, perhaps, but somehow I have a good measure of confidence that the Lord is going to answer the prayers which I know are going up from so many parts of the world for us, and avert the threatened disaster.

What the prospect regarding cholera epidemics in this land during the

coming summer is, it is hard to say. It seems to have been stamped out in Van, and that between quinine and copper, we feel a good measure of confidence that it can be controlled, but it may be that quarantine will make trouble in travelling the coming summer. If not, and it should seem best for us to take a vacation, we would enjoy, in many respects, going out via Fitlis, Mardin, Harpoot, Sivas and Marsovan and so on to Cons'ple. and to Germany and England. Pastor Lohmann has given us a cordial invitation to visit them and work a little for increasing interest in our work among the good German people, and Lady Anderson has asked us to visit them in Dublin. It would be very pleasant to meet the friends with whom we have formed such a pleasant acquaintance by correspondence, and a moderate amount of work in the line suggested would, I think, be restful for me rather than fatiguing.

We are, of course, watching the progress of affairs in the far east and within the borders of our near neighbor on the north with very great interest. It would seem as if the fall of Mukden with so great loss of life and material and prestige, and the assassination of Grand Duke Sergius and the various internal disturbances must bring Russia to the point of accepting peace. It is easy to believe that great improvement in internal conditions may follow throughout the Russian empire.

Wife has gone over to the village of Hashgudag for a few days, tho the roads are not very favorable. You will be glad to know that the young man Arenag, who was called back from Aintab on an utterly groundless charge, has this day been set free, after two or three weeks in prison.

With kindest regards to all friends

Yours most sincerely

G. C. Raynolds.

Dr. G. C. Raynolds

Van, Turkey. Mar. 1

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REC'D MAY 22 1905

Van, April 17th. 1905.

ANS'D JUN 12 1905

r Dr. Barton,

My wife has writen a letter for you, and there are a few minutes re I must close the post, and so I will tell you a little about a short I made last Frid. and Sat. with Capt. Tyrrell. It was not altogether sant for me, as he is not noted for the patience with which he treats natives, and he does not feel any great amount of love or sympathy for Armenians, and does not think it right to ask for funds for people till have reached the very last stage of famine. Some of those whom I asked had said that there were those who were showing such signs, and I entioned this to him, but we did not find such, and this gave him a ce to repeat his constant assertion that all men, e pecially all Armeni- en, and sometimes missionaries not excepted, are liars. He stormed a- and treated the people as if it were a mortal sin to have a handful lour in the house, and if a few eggs which the people would not eat du- fast were found, it was proof positive that there was no need for re- . We examined a good many houses in several villages, and I do not k we found food enough to last a week in any one of them, and most of was what we had given them. It must be that the villagers have help- achother pretty faithfully, or certainly they would not be in as good ition physically as they are. But it certainly does seem as if the tchen people were ab ut at the end of their tether, those who had laid something being rapidly added to the class of those who have nothing. t fall's sowing was only moderate in quantity, and some of that has been ared by the snow, and very many have already sold the hoped for product rinous rates to pay the relentless tax-gatherer. Unless a fair amount sowed this spring there is likely to be a famine in good earnest another r, and the people have no seed, and the sharks are still holding the in at prohibitive prices. Life is almost unendurable for us with so h suffering all about us and such constant calls which we can not an- r, and the nervous strain is very heavy.

No time for more, love from us both to all friends and I am

Yours most sincerely

G. C. Raynolds

G. C. Raynolds

San-Turkey. Apr. 17-'05.

Van, April 17th, 1905. JUN 12 1905

Dear Mr. Peet,

Last Friday and Saturday I went out with Capt. Tyrrell to visit a few of the villages in Haigatsore where the need is represented as very great, so that we might know from our own observation what the actual situation was. In order to get a definite idea of the situation, I had often asked our examiners and others whether there were actually those who presented the emaciation and discoloration, etc., which are seen in real famine times, and I had been told that such cases were seen, and I had mentioned this to Capt. Tyrrell. We found that in this one respect the situation had been exaggerated, for the people had not reached that point. It was unfortunate that there should have been this overstatement, as it gave him an opportunity to say, as he is apt to say, that all the Armenians are liars, and the situation is not at all what it has been represented, etc. His idea seems to be that till the people generally have reached the extreme famine conditions, there is no occasion to give them any help. In confidence, I would say that Capt. Tyrrell does not like the Armenians, and is but little inclined to believe any good of them, or to place any confidence in what they say, and I presume that any reports that he may give as to the situation will be quite different from those which I may give. It seems necessary to say this much in order to explain possible discrepancies in our reports. We visited three or four of the worst of the nearer villages, and examined a number of houses so as to get an idea of the actual situation. I do not think any of the houses we visited presented more than a week's supply of food, and a large share of that was what our distributors had given them. It was often the case that a few eggs could be found and of course there must have been fowls to lay them, and some of these also we found. Probably the reason the eggs were not already eaten was that it was fast. The people already dig up roots and freshly springing weeds, and boil them till they are soft, and if they can get from us or from their neighbors a little grain or flour to mix with the mess, they think themselves well off. It seems to be the fact that the people have helped each other, as they say they do, or else the present conditions would not have been maintained. The winter came on very early last fall, and there was much rain at the start, which soaked the stacks of fodder, and in the winter when they were needed it was found that they were largely rotted, and the snow has been much more in quantity than usual, and very late in going off, and these things have all conspired to make the fate of the people much worse. We ourselves had to bring our sheep down to the city for several weeks, as no fodder could be found in the villages, and the snow did not admit of grazing as it would usually do at that time. Now I would say that the situation is about like this. The major part of the villagers have no provision on hand for more than a few days or weeks, while very many now have nothing save what we have given them, supplemented by greens and other famine food. Supplies laid in are constantly giving out, so that the few who have had anything are rapidly joining the number who have nothing. As the spring opens a certain amount of subsistence can be gained from the growing vegetables, but, of course, nothing of very much value for some months yet. Milch animals are few, but there will be something coming from this source, as pasturage will now be good, tho the animals are so poor to start with that the yield will not be large. The fall sowing was less than usual, but fair in amount. Some of it has been spoiled by the snow, but how much I am not able to form an estimate. Unless a good deal is sown this spring, the yield this fall must be small, and very few have any seed to sow. A large share of the people have already sold the next year's crop, at great loss, so that little or no-

thing will accrue to them, even from a good crop. Tax collecting goes on relentlessly, and I cannot see to what this wretched population is coming. It looks as if extermination were decreed, and they were being shut up to be destroyed. The outlook is more utterly discouraging than I have ever seen it before. Thus far no special cause has presented to make us expect massacre, and it is said that some at least of the Rs. have withdrawn, but with what motive I do not know. The commandant, who recently died, was considered as favoring a massacre. We do not yet know who will be his successor, and the safety of the country will probably depend, in large measure, on his character.

No time for more today.

With love from us both to all

Yours most sincerely,

(Signed) G. C. Raynolds.

Copy of letter to Mr. Peet.

Rec'd MAY 26 1905

Van, April 22nd, 1905.

Ans'd JUN 12 1905

Dear Dr. Barton,

The last post brought me a copy of the annual report of our Wms. Coll. class of '61, and I was perfectly astonished to find in it a letter which you had writen to my classmate, Mr. Spelman, whom it seems you had met at Manchester, Vt. and who asked you to write him what you had told him in private. Be assured, my dear friend, that I most highly appreciate your kindness of heart in saying such appreciative things about me. With regard to the many and great encomiums which the letter contains, I can only say that I am covered with shame and confusion of face, when I realize how very, very far short I come from deserving such praise. So long as we have no children to care for and to demand our pecuniary assistance, it is certainly only a natural thing to prefer to use money which came in such a way for the upbuilding of the work in which we are engaged. As to the way in which it was used, the windmill and the church are the structures on which it was finally expended. It did indeed cause us to venture on beginning the hospital structure, but the expense of that has now been provided for from other sources. The people built half of the church, and I am glad to feel that the other half was provided for from the indemnity, and I am willing to look upon that edifice as a sort of memorial. The windmill, I am sorry to confess, has not met expectations, and does not prove sufficient to furnish the water we need for the nearly 1000 persons who are on our premises during the day, so that we are obliged still to have the water from the watercourse continue to come to us. The windmill does a certain amount of work, but as it doesnot supply this need, I can but feel that it was a great mistake, and if I had brought iron water pipes, it would have cost less that the windmill did and have been more satisfactory, and

there would have been some money left for other important objects. As it is, the need for water pipes still exists, tho by so arranging it that it only delivers water on a level with the pipes instead of forcing it to a higher level, as it did at first, thereby bringing a great pressure on the pipes and bursting them, the present pipes answer for the present. The trouble is that the roots of the trees will penetrate the pipes and fill them, necessitating frequent repairs.

We are waiting anxiously for an answer to our application for leave to erect a new house for Mr. Yarrow, as it is now time to begin work on it, if it is to be done this year.

Nothing has yet occurred to indicate that the apprehensions of political disturbance this spring are to be realized. The Rs. seem to be maintaining a more conservative policy, and it is said that the Armenist branch, who may be called the "Oportunists" of the nation, are gaining in strength among the people. The death of the military commander, who was supposed to favor a massacre, also seems to ease the situation, unless a successor should be sent who is worse than he. The poverty however increases and the suffering is great, tho it can not be said that actual famine exists. Funds that have come in recently, mostly from the Harrises in Eng. are being used for seed, which is the crying need. Industrial relief would be the desirable thing after the time for sowing is passed.

Mrs. Raynolds and Sister Clara have gone down to the Artenid house to rest for a few days, and I hope it will do them much good.

I see I have omitted to say that your account of the Mousa Bey affair is considerably inaccurate, and you will find an account in the Mass. Herald for 1883, page 307, which will correct some of the inaccuracies. Mr. Knapp was not wounded, we neither of us lost consciousness, I extricated my hands before the time when we heard the voices of our men, and then released Mr. Knapp, who was very securely bound. When we reached the next village and I patched myself up, the "largest looking glass I could find" was the cover of a little box about two inches in diameter, which a Koordish woman brought

If it is ever considered worth while to tell this story, I would at least prefer that it should be told correctly.

Thanking you very heartily for your very great kindness in what you have said, but deprecating the undeserved praise, I remain, with kindest regards from wife and self for all friends,

Yours most sincerely

G. C. Raynolds.

Your good long letter of March 24 just in hand & shall not have time to read it before I send off this pro-

Dr. G. C. Raynolds
San Francisco Apr. 22-1905.

Rec'd JUN 2 1905

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Van, April 29th. 1905.

To the Members of the Prudential Com.

Ans'd JUL 12 1905
L. Dr. Wesley

Dear Brethren,

A letter was writen to Dr. Barton on Jan. 21st. by one of our number, asking for a special appropriation to cover the charge for insurance on buildings here. Dr. Barton now informs us that you felt that you could not consider the request because it did not come with the distinct approval of the station. The letter was read to the station and met with our cordial approval, and it did not occur to us that it would not be considered as expressing the sentiment and desire of the whole station. Moreover we felt that its inate reasonableness would insure it favorable consideration. We desire now to correct the unintentional informality, and would respectfully request that the special appropriation therein asked for be granted, since the regular appropriations are not sufficient to meet the regular running expenses of the station, and the taking of this sum from the appropriations would very seriously cripple our work.

We remain

Yours most respectfully

G. C. Raynolds.
C. D. Usher
E. A. Yarrow
Grisell M. McLaren
Susan R. Norton.

of W an Station -

Fan - Apr. 29 - 1905.

Van, May 29th. 1905.

Rec'd JUN 28 1905

Dear Dr. Barton,

We were all much rejoiced by the announcement in your letter to Dr. Ussher, received by the last post, that an appropriation has been made for the Artemid house, but equally disappointed that the appropriation for the new house in the city was delayed. As I wrote you last week, the plan is for the Yarrows to use our house during our absence, but in order to enable them to vacate it when we return, if the Lord sees best to allow us to do so, a year hence, it is essential that the walls of the new house should be erected this year, so as to get dry in time to be occupied then. We do not see any other solution of the question of residences that will be at-all satisfactory. For a mission family to hire a house outside the premises will be to greatly diminish the efficiency of the occupant, by separating him from his work. The annex to our house was built with orphanage funds, and it is expected that a German family will come in the fall which will need those rooms, and as they communicate directly with the rooms of the german ladies, it will be quite possible for them to live as one family, i.e. with one table, so that it is clear that the annex can not be used by us. Another thing, building material is unusually cheap this year, so that this is another argument for putting up the house now. So strong is the feeling among the members of the station of the absolute necessity of the new house, that those who have contributed to the Artemid house say that rather than have the matter go over, they are willing to allow what they have put into that house remain for the present, until the appropriation can be made, or even, if no appropriation can be secured, permanently. So, in view of all these things, we are planning to run the risk of the displeasure of the Prud. Com. and begin work on the new house at once. In this way, the walls and roof may be expected to be put in place before winter, and then it will be easy to finish it off before the time we should expect to return. We hope not to get rapped very hard over the knuckles for our

temerity.

I think I acknowledged the letter containing the permit for us to take a furlough, and we are getting ready to start, should nothing occur to interfere, about the first week in July. We shall probably close up the relief work before that time, except for the medical relief and Mrs. Ussher's lace work, and this, by how much it diminishes relief to others, will prove a relief to our overworked circle and assistants.

With kindest regards for yourself and family and all friends, from us both, I remain

Yours most sincerely

G. C. Raynolds.

Dr. G. C. Raynolds
Van - Turkey.
January 29 - 1905.

Rec'd JUL 17 1905

Van, June 17th. 1905.

Dear Dr. Barton,

Your favor of May 9th. has not been answered yet, I believe, and I will write a few lines today. We watch with much interest the progress of the Rockefeller controversy, and judge that the majority of the Christian public approve of the course which you have taken, but that a few are able to make a good deal of noise. It seems to be an attempt at the minority rule, which so often succeeds in Turkish churches. May the Lord bring good out of it all, and guide you all in your course.

You have probably learned that a serious proposition to hold a mission meeting has been started from Mardin, and seems to meet with general approval on the part of the mission, so that we really hope to see delegates here in about a month, unless the Govt. should interpose a veto, which I hope will not be allowed. This will delay our starting on furlough a little, but we shall be only too glad to wait, especially as we may thus hope to have travelling companions as far as Harpoot.

You may be interested to know that there seems to be an increasing desire among the villages to have us assume the care of their schools, furnish teachers from the orphanage, and help them to some extent pecuniarily, as may be needed. I visited this week a village in Upper Haigatsore, where a young man, now a member of our church has been teaching for several years, and where the villagers propose to turn over the title to a small parcel of land in the village to our name, for the erection of a school building, they to furnish the timber, and stone for foundation, with considerable labor, asking us to furnish the skilled labor, glass, and such things, thus putting the superintendence of the school in our hands and giving us a foothold there, as a centre for evangelistic work in that section. We have a small fund which came from the return of seed given out to the villagers

some years since, and which we devoted to helping the villagers in their schoolwork, and we plan to give the small sum, perhaps IT 5. needed for this work, from that fund. The villagers, including the priest and the rais, enthusiastically indorse this scheme, and thus we hope to establish another useful evangelistic centre. We thus seem likely to find places for our orphanage boys who come to the point of graduating from the orphanage, and are suited for the work of village teachers, and thus a strong evangelical influence may be expected to go out from the orphanage.

We are continuing to think a good deal about industrial development, and it is my plan to get all the information I can while away, and interest as many as I can in such work, and I have strong hope that when I return next year, if the Lord permits me to do so, we may be ready to start in on such work.

The foundations of the new house are being laid, and we hope that the statements which have been made regarding the matter will induce the Prud. Gen. to vote an appropriation for the work, so that the private funds now invested in the Artemid house can be freed, and both of these very necessary buildings made available.

Thanks for the kind wish to see us before we return to Van, but we do not now feel that it is wise for us to think of crossing the ocean again, unless the time should come when we can no longer be of any use here, and our presence would be felt to be an injury to the work. It is our preference to remain here till the Lord calls to the better land.

With kindest regards from us both to all friends

Yours most sincerely

G. C. Raynolds.

G. C. Raynolds

Van, Turkey. June 17 1905.

Rec'd AUG 15 1905

Van, July 18th. 1905.

Dear Dr. Barton,

Your over-kind letter of June 12th. reached me by the last post. Please accept hearty thanks for all that was said, even tho it is so clearly an overstatement.

A few words this morning regarding the articles of mine, which were sent out last winter, for private circulation, in the hope of improving in some small measure the situation here. We are much surprised to find that the Gochnag has published them both in full, the latter with my signature, the other without signature indeed, but the contents of the article show clearly from what source it came. Copies of the articles have been sent here and are exciting much criticism, as is natural, from the revolutionists and also from their sympathizers, and somewhat generally from the Armenians. This does not greatly trouble me, tho it may cause the revolutionists to take such a course as will interfere with the work we are trying to do in the villages, since at present, tho they are not making themselves very evident to the government, yet they have assumed a sort of quasi protectorate of the Armenians, undertaking to settle their disputes and administer punishment where they deem it needed. They had not been showing special hostility to our work, but may become so much stirred up now as to do so. This however is not the worst phase of the situation. It is pretty certain that the attention of the Government has been called to the articles, and this, with the action we have been directed to take in the non-payment of taxes, seems to have awakened a decided feeling of coldness towards us even on the part of the Vali himself. To what extent this coldness will go, and what results it may bring about, I do not know. Just how B. Marderos came to publish these articles I do not know. That the second one, that printed over my signature, was also published in England, I have reason to suppose, but I was not aware that the first one had been. It is the first one which contains the strong statements, all of which I believe to be true indeed, about the collecting of taxes, etc. which would of course especially stir up the government. Whether it will lead to the refusal to recognize our institutions, or to refuse us permission to travel, or even to remain here, I do not know, nor to what extent our government would be able to prevent such interference. I should suppose that anyone would see that the former article was not for publication. Perhaps I made a mistake in writing them, but there certainly seemed to be a reason for putting the facts where they might possibly influence public opinion.

In a way, I suppose that the Govt. has a right to say that foreigners, who are permitted to reside here as guests, should not interfere with its work, and the more unjust that work is, the more it will desire to prevent such interference. Perhaps, if I once get out of the country, it will say I shall not return to it.

Well, I did what I did with good intentions, and if it was a mistake, we may pray and hope that the Lord will overrule it for good.

A sad occurrence took place here last Friday. Somebody had brought an old revolver to the oven hoping to find a purchaser for it, and it had been put under a cloth in the kneeding trough. One of the workmen took up the cloth, and found the revolver, and was examining it, while standing in front of a boy who was sitting there, supposing it was not loaded, but there was one cartridge in it, and it was discharged, and went right thro the boy's head, killing him almost immediately. Of course it gives the Govt. a chance to accuse us of allowing firearms on the premises. The fact is that we have reached such conditions now that it is almost impracticable for us to ignore the Rs. or for any Armenian to refuse some measure of affiliation with them, and hence it is almost impossible to secure that all our employes shall be strictly loyal. It is hard to prophesy where matters will bring up. We are expecting that delegates to the meeting will arrive by Sat. and hope to begin the meeting Monday. With earnest prayers for the success of your annual meeting and of all the work,

Yours most sincerely

E. C. Raynolds.

Just in says Eng. delegates hindered by Govt.

G. C. Raymolds

Van, Turkey. July 18-1905.

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Rec'd NOV -6 1905

Ans'd NOV 10 1905

Brousa, Oct. 17th. 1905.

Dear Dr. Barton,

Now that I am away from my type-writer, my correspondents will have to put up with my execrable chirography, as my hand is very jerky when I attempt to write.

I have been so constantly on the go, that I have not seen a time when I could sit down for a quiet chat with you since leaving home, Aug. 2d.

Of the mission meeting you have heard long ago, and I will only say that all present enjoyed it very greatly and found it profitable as well. I fear the Cong. Com. will feel that there was too much "give, give" in it, but what could we do when we had had no opportunity, for seven years, to tell how the children were out-

growing thin clothes and sum
are the kind mother to us kind
piece than down a little?

I presume you have not time
to read any very full account
our movements, and you are
at liberty to throw as much a
you like into the waste-basket.
I begin to feel a little worried
our travelling expenses,
as the bill we can, up to the
of leaving Constpl. they will be
more than our salary would be
here at home, and it seems
right to spend more on pleasure
we would do while at home and
at work. If you feel we are
reasonable, you must let us
know so that we may try to
find some other provision. I
course coming out this way has
cost a good deal more than
would to come come via Sing
but it has been a very great
pleasure to us to meet so mas

missionary friends, and all so much of the missionary work by the way, and if we are permitted to return to our field, I hope that what we have seen will help us to make our own work more effective, & do feel more and more that it is an immense advantage to mission to see societies and societies's work, but I realize that it is by no means an easy thing to accomplish, certainly outside the bounds of our own mission.

We were a large party that started out. 2. for Kittis, the delegates from Kittis, Mundin and Harpoot, and we all enjoyed our three days at Kittis. We realized more than ever the very great need of reinforcements there, both on account of the actual, present work, and of the pulling of the cords that they can not hold on very much longer. So they greatly need prayer help and some one to be in training to take up this work

when they lay it down. They o
to have a physician, but they c
have a man for general work.
Just now there is a Dr. graduated fr
Beirut there who is at least better
than nothing in that line. Mr.
wants a man with experience an
the language, but I don't tell
where he is to come from. He tho
of Mr. Sterrett, of the Urumia Stati
whom he saw at Van, and who
did not seem to be quite workin
in to the work, but the sud
death of Dr. Cochran has caused
his call to Urumia to take the
treasury, or he is out of the question
Bible Revised and Exposition co
tinue imperatively need rein
forcement.

Fourteen days on cartuje horse
made us very thankful to reach
dear Harpoot, where we received
a most hearty welcome, and
we intensely enjoyed our two
days visit there. As it was a
cation, we were not able to see

the school work, which we regretted, but had, perhaps, a better chance for personal visits. Of course, the shadow of this great loss rested heavy on all the circle, but especially on those most nearly touched by it, and the same was true at Marsodan. Our short sight can not see the wherefore of this sad loss, but sometime we may know.

We moved on from here in wagons, which was in many respects easier than horseback travel, but much of the way the roads are so rough as to make the jolting very trying, and my wife found it especially hard, so that, when we reached Marsodan, she was quite worn up, and had her bed much of the time while there. We spent a Sabbath at Malatia and were very sorry to see the sad divisions which prevail there, and hope some remedy may be found for them.

At Sivas it was a great pleasure to renew acquaintance with my old college friend Berry, whom I have seen at Aintab, where we first lived the country 34 years ago. It was our first meeting with the present Mrs. Berry, who is certainly a very able and superior person. We were also very glad to meet other members of the station as to see the work, which in many respects resembles the Van work. We were interested to see that there is a pretty strong movement toward the Protestant fold on the part of those who have so long tried to live as Christians in the old church. I was very much pleased with this boys school, which is somewhat nearer to our Van work than most others I have seen, but superior to it, and I want to see ones coming up to a similar place. I hope Mr. and Mrs. Yarrow with the help of one of our young men, who has spent two years

Marsovan and has now returned to take a place on our teaching force again, may be able to accomplish considerable in this line, even this year. Another of our Van boys will graduate at Marsovan next June & hope return to help us out yet more for next year; if only economic conditions will so improve as to make it possible for people to pay for education. The Bardizag school is of a much higher grade, with a very highly paid and able corps of teachers and style of living which it seems to me is would not be right for the Board to furnish. Even when it can be made self supporting, it is a very different thing. I am afraid that Dr. Chambers is not going to be able to endure that climate, which would be a very great pity, as he seems to have the work well in hand, and any one else would have difficulty in keeping it up to its present standard.

I was very favorably impressed w[illegible] the Marsovan schools, which cer[illegible] tainly have a very fine corps of teachers, enthusiastically attache[illegible] to its interests, and is also able t[illegible] afford its advantages to pupil[illegible] at a very moderate figure. I we[illegible] glad to see that the orphanage work at Sivas and Marsovan was conducted on a more econ[illegible] ical scale than the German work at Mezreh, more nearly resem[illegible] bling our work at home.

Sep. 24th. This letter is dragging itself along, and I will try to send it off today.

We were very glad to meet Mr. Favre and Prof. Godet, of Switzerla[illegible] at Sivas and again here, and the former has made us a dona[illegible] tion of £1 10s. for our agricul[illegible] tural work. We also had the pleasure of meeting Mr. Cook & Dr. Cook of Miami, at Marsovan and had their company from Sa[illegible] soon to this city.

Last Sunday evening I was invited to tell of our work to the Eng. Mys. Soc. at Bebek, and yesterday A. M. was calling at Dr. Gates' when a traveller called and was introduced as Dr. Myers, author of various school histories, and to my surprise I found that it was he and his brother who passed through Merdin 34 years ago and called me down from Harpoot to see a brother bound. It was a very pleasant mutual surprise and he invited me to join them for a trip around the walls, Prof. Swiltinger being with us and also Dr. Gates. It afforded me very great pleasure.

We are resting and enjoying ourselves delightfully here, with head quarters at Dr. Barnum's. We now hope to move on for Europe next week, leaving here on Frid. Nov. 3. spending the following Sabbath with my old

college friend, Dr. Hinkel, of Pa-
ipt opolis, and then going to
Pastor Lehmann.

Our address will be care of
Rev. and I will try to write y
from time to time.

With very kindest regards to
all friends, from Mrs. R. and
myself, I remain

Yours most sincerely,
E. J. Raynolds.

George E. Raynolds
Aug. Lutheran Aug. 17-1906.

Rec'd DEC 7 1905

Rostock, Germany,
Nov. 27th. 1905.
Ans'd DEC 7 1905

My dear Dr. Barton,

I think I wrote you back from Constple. and asked you about our travelling expenses. Mr. Peet thinks that as my salary till Dec. 31st. was included in the appropriations, I had better draw that and then ask any additional help which may be needed. It is my present hope that I shall not need more than that until Dec. 31st, as our expenses here in Germany are otherwise provided for. Shall we continue the same plan next year? I do not know whether any salary will be included in the Van appropriations for 1906 or not. Whether we shall have any other help while in Eng. I can not say.

While at Constple. we made our headquarters with our old friends and associates the Barnums, and it was very delightful. I visited Brousa and Bardizag, which I had never seen before, and we made several short visits in the city. We planned to leave

Frid. Nov. 3d. but Mrs. R. had a severe malarial attack the day before, which compelled us to postpone our departure a week. We spent our first Sunday Nov. 12th. with my old college friend Dr. Haskell and the second, Nov. 19th. with our friends the Bartus, at Prague. We enjoyed both visits very much, and were so glad to see the work in these places.

Mond. Nov. 20th. we came on to Berlin, where Pastor Lohmann met us, and took us to Freienwalde, a village 30 or 40 miles north of Berlin, where his home is. There he has located us at a pleasant, quiet boarding place, where Mrs. R. can be resting, and still not entirely without congenial society.

For me he had formed plans to give me a chance to meet friends of our work in different places. So on Wed. I started out for a three weeks' tour. Wed. Thurs. and Frid. evenings I spoke in as many different places in Berlin. Sat. I came to this place where I am entertained at the elegant home of Herr

and Frau von Oertzen, warm friends of the Armenians, and most earnest christian workers. She has written a very effective book, "His Brother's Blood," in behalf of the Armenian cause. I have had three meetings here. This P.M. I shall return to Berlin, and tomorrow go to Bielefeld, staying in that vicinity till next week, next week at Hannover and Frankfurt, the following week to Chemnitz and then return to Freienwalde to rest till after Christmas. Then I think he has some further plans for me, but I do not know them definitely. So we are not likely to reach England before late in Jan. I hope good enough may be accomplished by my visits to pay for my salt. It is certainly very pleasant to be admitted to the home life of the people. It is so much more than merely to stop at hotels and see the sights. I am exceedingly interested in the evangelical movement in Germany and also in Austria. I have also seen accounts of the wonderful revival work

going on in India. Oh! why may n
not have a similar work in Turke
Of course you are kept informed
what is going on at Van. Our he
are made heavy by the news, the ca
rying off of our sheep, the dreadfu
high prices of grain and other thin
the continued oppressive taxation
the hopeless poverty. Oh! Lord, how
long?

Our present address is "c/o Frau
Prof. Zentzsch, Weinberg 7, Freienwal
a/o bei Berlin, Prussia." Letters sen
to this address or to Mr. Pet's card
will be forwarded to us.

Wife, if true, would join in very
heartiest greetings to yourself an
family, and to the Smiths, Stra
Mr. Reans, and other friends
and I remain

Most sincerely Your
G. C. Raynolds.

G. C. Raynolds
Letter, Kinney Nov. 27-1905

You might address me
c/o Friends of Armenia
47 Victoria St.
Westminster, London.

Rec'd DEC 26 1905
Ans'd JAN 10 1906

Freienwalde, Dec. 12th 1905.

Dear Dr. Barton,

I sent you a letter a fortnight ago from Rostock, and when I reached Bielefeld, my next appointment, I found your good letter, for which many thanks.

It is very good of you to write so kindly about expenses. I am glad to say that crediting us our salary till Dec. 31st, as it had already been appropriated, will leave us only a lira or two in debt, tho our share of mission meeting expenses has not yet been all charged to us. It seems probable that our work in Germany may continue, perhaps till the end of Jan. and I suppose our expenses will be sent till then by Pastor Lohmann. It seems to me it may be as well to let simply our regular salary continue on from Jan. 1st. and if, when we reach Van again, we find we have overrun that amount, we will make a special application for more.

I have just returned here from my first speaking tour in Germany, having visited ten different towns,

been absent 21 days and made 20 addresses. Berlin, Rostock, Bielefeld Lemgo, Homberg, Barmen, Hannover, Cassel, Frankfurt and Chemnitz are the places visited, and a good many hundred miles were traversed. Most of the meetings were in comparatively small halls, but almost always well filled. At Frankfurt it is estimated that 1000 - 1200 were present, hundreds standing thro the whole service. I found that a feeling was gaining ground that it is the action of the revolutionists that is making the whole trouble for the Armenians, that thus the Govt. is justified in suppressing them, and hence it is better to have the Armenians to their own destruction, and I am asked, in some places, especially to combat this idea. In order to do this I have felt obliged to say rather more about the conduct of the Turkish Govt. and the massacres than might merit the approval of the Sultan. In what extent my words will be reported so as to reach the Turkish officials, I do not know. I realize that my position is a delicate and

I have asked the Lord to guide me in what I may say, keep me from mistakes and prevent harm from resulting from what I say.

Mr. Cut asked me, if I should meet any who might have influence ~~with~~ with those connected with the German Govt. to try and correct an idea, he feared was existing, that our work in Turkey had some political and commercial ends, so that any jealousy of our work might be corrected and, if possible, the cooperation of Germany with the U.S. be secured in influencing the Sultan. At Bielefeld I had a short interview with Pastor von Bodelschwing who is a great friend of the Emperor and a member of the Prussian Parliament. He expressed a willingness to do anything he can, but did not deem it wise to say anything to the Emperor but suggested that he might talk to the Count von Bulow about it. Pastor Fokmann however does not think that much could be hoped for in that line. He says the Emperor's views are so

well known and he so strongly w
holds the Sultan, that no one d
tures to say anything to him in
any line of opposition. But we
hope to meet, in Berlin, on Frida
with one or two influential pe
ple and talk over the matters.
Pastor Lehmann thinks that if
Pres. Roosevelt were to ask direct
for the cooperation of the German
Govt. in securing protection for
our work, on the ground that Ge
man societies were working in
the same lines and in such con
junction with the Americans th
anything which helped or hindre
the one would affect almost eq
the other also, there would be
much hope of receiving a favora
ble reply. Such application mig
open the way for questions from
the Govt. to them which might enab
them to give information which wou
do good. Very probably the German Go
may not know that German societi
are sending annually from a five-
hundred thousand marks to Tur
Should anything new develope on Su
that you ought to know, I will wri
you. With love from Mrs. R. & myself
to all friends I remain
Yours as ever J. C. Raynolds.

Rec'd JAN 1 1906

Freierwalde, Dec. 20th. 1905.

Ans'd JAN 10 1906

Dear Dr. Barton,

Yesterday morning your kind favor of Dec. 7th. came to hand, and a few hours later the one dated Dec. 1st which had come via Constpl.

And first please accept most hearty thanks for the season's greetings and good wishes, which let us most heartily reciprocate. It is our earnest desire and prayer that you and yours, and all our good friends on the rounds, may be richly blessed and guided in all your ways, and have grace and wisdom granted you for all the difficult questions you are called upon to decide.

Next regarding our allowance while on furlough. As I wrote you, paying our travelling and other expenses to the end of 1905, except

those provided for by friends Fund, and drawing our salary up to that time, as appropriated leaves us only a line or two in debt. It is true however that something more will need to be charged to us an expense of entertainment of the mission meeting, and that the margin of about £14. which our account showed at the end of June, and which would naturally be used for laying in supplies for another year has been used. As we came and are likely to return, it is a little difficult to determine when travelling expenses end and begin, and what should be properly considered as belonging to allowance, as we have travelled a little, and stopped a little, and are likely to continue the same method till our return. You mentioned that missionaries

on furlough were entitled to a definite allowance, at the rate, I think you said, of $900.00 per annum. I am not sure whether you expect that travelling expenses will be less or more than at the same rate, but should presume it would not be less. Now I am going to propose that a grant be made, at the usual rate, from Jan. 1st 1900 till such time as we may reach Yau, probably not far from seven months, and let us care for our own travelling expenses. Should we use more than that, we will try to provide for it ourselves. Should there be any large sum remaining, we will return it. If you prefer some other arrangement, please let me know.

Till end of Jan. it might be well to address me "c/o Pastor Ernst Lohmann Freienwalde, a/O near Berlin;" after

that "c/o Miss Cantlow, 47 Victoria
Westminster, London, Eng."

Now for your question "What
can we do with Bittis?" It is a
question about which I have
thought a good deal, and I rath
think I wrote you about it, but
not quite certain. The best thin
I could think of, so far as Bittis
was concerned, was for the Sta
tons to go there, when Mrs. S. cou
give medical care needed for th
missionaries and the orphans.
It might be that Mr. S. going
a new place, with present exp
rience, could make his life b
far more than in the difficu
Erz. field. Still it would no
do to leave Erz. unoccupied,
suppose Dr. Underwood does
not wish to assume the whole
missionary responsibility the

and I do not know of any one who could go there.

Since my return here I have had some talks with Pastor Lohmann about the work, in general, and especially at Van and Mosh. He has received requests to open orphanage work at Mosh, and he would be glad to help the needy ones there. He has not however quite seen his way to establish a new plant there, and has rather wanted to have us take, say 50 more orphans, at Van, letting them come from there. This does not seem very feasible.

Yesterday a.m. just after your letter came, Pastor L. was in here, and I mentioned your letter. I also asked him what his desire was in the matter of engaging in evangelistic work outside the orphanage work. He said he so fully realized the evils of having different

societies working in the same or adjacent field that he did not wish to open any separate work, but that he would be glad to have a share in evangelistic work.
After a little further conversation he made a definite proposition, viz. that he take the charge of the orphanage work at Bitlis, except so much as the Mission Sly might prefer to retain in their hands, and send a gentleman, perhaps Mr. Spörri, now at Van, to take charge of it. Perhaps send a Dr. later. Then let Van and Bitlis be considered as one station under the joint care of the Am. Bd. and his Soc. each furnishing a portion of the funds. He says that at other places where they have work, they send one man as Superintendent, or Pres. He proposes not to do this first,

but to give this post to me, — as I see is already done in the circular they issue, — and then we carry on this work in common, details to be worked out later, in case the proposition finds favor.

I confess the plan strikes me very favorably. In the first place, it would solve the financial difficulty, so far as these stations are concerned, which comes from the lack of funds in America. It is really true even now that the work in the Van villages is carried on by funds from Germany and England. It is certainly but fair that those who furnish the funds should have a voice in the management, as this arrangement would give. Then it would enable the Germans to do what they are best for Mrook, much more effici-

ciently than can be done from
and without enlarging the Va
arphanage, which does not see
to me desirable. Then it would
carry out your suggestion of
working Bitter's from Van, with
out interfering with the work
the Misses Ely, which is a very
strong point in its favor.

Such a joint work seems to me
far more desirable than for
the Germans to carry on a sepa
rate work, as we have felt it pro
able they would one day wish to
do. Should the steam laun
of which Dr. Upton and Mr. Larson
are talking, materialize, it would
add greatly to the facilities for car
rying out such a project.

Thus far we have found our
German associates agreeable, and
cooperation has been easy, and
it would seem probable that

this plan would facilitate smooth working. At present certainly Pastor L. puts confidence in us at Van, tho his understanding of Mr. Carey's attitude toward higher criticism led him to feel that some measure of separation there was desirable. I hope nothing may occur to shake this confidence. Pastor L. is a very scholarly man, and very strong in his views of the inspiration of the Scriptures, this being the question on which he and Dr. Lepsius have parted. The reception which has been accorded to me here has been most flattering & I regret that the desert has been so far below it.

I have already written to Bitlis and Van on this subject asking them to communicate their ideas to you at once. It seems probable to me that Van will look at it favorably. I do not feel quite

so sad about Bitti's. They have never favored having German associates for this orphan work, but I should certainly suppose that the Crown Prince would prefer this to your proposition to give up this school and residence there. Well, I have stated the matter and leave it for others to act upon.

I went into Berlin the 15th. but Pastor von Bodelschwing was not there, Parliament not assembling till after Christmas. Thiel is a prominent man, Count Bernsdorf I believe the second is, whom I saw, with Pastor Lohmann. He agreed with Pastor L. that there would be a good deal of hope that the Emperor might give favorable answer to a direct request from Pres. Roosevelt to cooperate in securing protection

for the common work of Germany and the U.S., but could suggest no other hopeful plan.

I am, of course, very much interested to know what course will be taken in view of the Sultan's refusal to recognise our institutions.

Mrs. R. joins in her wishes for the new year for yourself and Mrs. Barton and the children, for Dr. and Mrs. Strong and Mrs. Means and Dr. and Mrs. Smith and the other friends at the rooms, and I remain

Yours most sincerely

G. C. Raynolds.

G. C. Raynolds

Freienwalde – Dec. 20 – 1905.

Rec'd JAN 22 1906

Freiburg, Jan. 18th 1906.

Ans'd JAN 23 1906

Dear Dr. Barton,

I hope you received my letter containing Pastor Lohmann's proposition concerning the Van and Bittis work. I shall not, of course, have time to get answers from you and from Van and Bittis before we leave for England, but we can arrange for a meeting with Pastor L. and his committee, I hope, on our return in the spring.

I write especially at Pastor Lohmann's request to ask if you would be willing to put his publication on the list of your exchanges with the Brit. Herald. Perhaps I should have written a letter directly to Dr. Strong on the subject, but I thought you might like to know of his desire, and you can pass it on to Dr. Strong. If you accept this request, he would like the Herald

sent to him, viz "Pastor Ernst Lohmann, Freienwalde a/O. Near Berlin, Germany."

In this connection I would say that we greatly miss the Herald, and if it could be sent to us while we are away from home, we should greatly appreciate it. I think we have seen the Oct. No. but not Nov. and Dec. There will not be time now to reach us here, so you had better consider our address. c/o Miss E. Cantlow 47 Victoria St. Westminster, London, Eng." I presume Mrs. K. would appreciate life in Light too.

Jan. 9. We were at Pastor Lohmann's last evening, his brother from Frankfort being there also, and I found that a copy of the Herald already goes to Frankfort, but Pastor Ernst L. also wishes to see it.

We had a little further conversation about the subject of cooperation in

general. Mr. Knapp had asked me to talk with him about this work, Mr. Ehwann apparently having said something which led them to think that the idea of corporate work had been abandoned. Mr. Knapp suggested the desirability of having some general principles decided upon, and formally agreed to by the officers of the two societies, proposing either general participation in all the work, with common supervision of the same, or the Dunmers taking up some special department or section, in the general supervision of which the Americans should have a voice, so that a common policy should be maintained.

Pastor Lohmann most emphatically and heartily assents to such a plan. At Hanfort he prefers the latter method, proposing to assume charge of Palu and Peri, while at

G. C. Raynolds

Freiwalde-Germany. Jan. 8-1906.

Van & think he would prefer the
mer plan. He proposes that wh
we return from England in th
spring, & should be present at
meeting of this Com. at Frank
By then there will have been ti
for necessary consultations, an
you may perhaps desire to hav
some formal arrangement th
established. All seem agreed
that the state of the Board's finan
es make some outside ofrotan
desirable.

A wire came from Van, a week
that Miss Patursky was dangerou
ill, and we have been much exer
in prayer for her valuable life to be
timed, and as no further word co
we have good hope that she is reco

On what principle were the name
Sisters Clara and Christiana put in
A. B. almanack as our workers a
Miss Patursky's omitted?

With heartiest greetings from us
both for all friends

Yours most sincerely G. C. Raynol

Rec'd FEB 5 1906

Duisburg, Jan. 25. 1906.

Ans'd FEB 17 1906

Dear Dr. Barton,

I have already written to Dr. Strong a little about my visit at Copenhagen, but I wish also to write to you. It is a wonderful circle of earnest, spiritual, Christian people there, containing so many of the nobility and those having means and influence to use for Christ. The Com. for work in Armenia is composed of women, the Countess von Arholm being Pres. and sends out only female workers to work for females. Hitherto they have worked simply as a branch of Pastor Lohmann's Soc. and have confined their work to orphanages and hospitals. But they would like to extend their work to include evangelistic work for women. They also feel themselves a little hampered by being merely a branch of a German Soc. tho they love Pastor

Lehmann very much, but there is a little of national feeling against Germany, which they think may somewhat limit their contributions, and they would enjoy a more direct relation with the americans. It seemed to me probable that the W.B. would welcome them as associates in this work in Turkey. The Danish Ech. does not wish directly to assume the superintendence of the workers they send out, and so they must depend on the German Soc. and the German Ech. for this. I have suggested to them and to Pastor Lehmann, that instead of being merely a branch of his Soc. they should be considered as an affiliated body, working, like it, in conjunction with the Am. Bd. Pastor L. will invite them to send a representative to attend the full meeting of his Cons. which he purposes to hold, in Frankfurt, about May 1st. on my return from Eng.

Now as to methods of work. They already have an orphanage work at Mozeri and it is proposed that they take charge of one of the new buildings there, to be conducted by the three Scandinavian sisters now there. Both they and Pastor L. will be pleased for them to furnish nurses for the new hospital which Dr. Atkinson hopes to rush up summer. Now I have suggested that they send out or more ladies for evangelistic work, perhaps rent a house near the hospital for their residence, and then perhaps a section of the field, say the villages on the Hph. plain, which ladies could easily visit with only their own servant to accompany them, be paped over to them as their special field, as it is proposed that Pastor L. take a special section of the field, Palu perhaps, for his cultivation, the whole work of the station being controlled by a Com.

consisting of the American mission-
aries, the German missionaries a
representatives of the American B.
as this seems to be the method of
cooperation preferred, for that fie
by both Germans and American
If such cooperative work is accepta
to our Board and missionaries, i
seems very probable that efficient
associates can be found here in Euro,
Pastor L. suggests that some one of
the Const'pl. missionaries should al.
be present at the Frankfort meeti
in April, and that it would be v
nice if a direct representative of t
Am. Board could be there too. I
wait with much interest to see h
the propositions regarding the Bo
and Bitlis work are received the
and in Boston, and now what
will be said regarding the sug
gestions of this letter. Our Board
certainly seems to need to increa
its constituency and receipts

in order properly to carry on its work, and if there are workers, this side the Atlantic, who are willing to join forces with us, instead of multiplying independent missions, it seems as if it might prove a wise arrangement. Pastor L. says that German Evangelicals are carrying on work in China in connection with the China Inland Mission, a certain province being assigned as their special field. Such cooperation seems quite in accord with present ideas of mission policy, and might well be extended.

Count von Rybolan asked me to recommend books and publications regarding Japan, as he had been asked to prepare statements regarding that country which may lead to the taking up of work there by Danish Christians. When Pastor L. mentioned their China work, the thought occurred to me, might

it not be possible, in case these Danish friends have not an organization prepared thro which to work, for them to make some similar arrangement with our Board. Any way, I think it would be well to send them some of our literature, so that they can inform themselves about our work. Anything you would like me to do at the May meeting in Frankfort, or elsewhere, please let me know.

You will have heard of the great loss we have sustained at Van in the death of Miss Saturley. It seems as if the work could hardly go on without her in the orphanage, and it is especially hard to have her taken away when they were all so overborne with work as our absence leaves them. If it were at all practicable to make the journey now I should feel like pushing right back, but aside from the difficulty from the season, I feel that it would

not be wise to return without visiting England, which we are now just on the eve of doing. I left Freienwalde last Sat. spent Sunday at a place named Großalmerode, having a large meeting in the evening. When I leave this place I go to Essen thence to Milheim, then Gelsenkirchen and thence on to London, Mrs. R. meeting me at the Hook of Holland next week Wed. evening and we reaching London Feb. 1st. Our tour works in Germany have been very pleasant and I hope not wholly unprofitable.

I did not succeed in seeing Pastor Bodelschwing again, but no one seems to think it any use to attempt to influence the Emperor, here. I am anxious to know what our Govt. is doing about our relations with the Turkish Govt.

Our London address will be c/o Miss Cantlow, 47 Victoria St. Westminster.

Wife, if here, would join in hearty
greetings to yourself and family
to the Strongs and Mrs. Means, a
the Smiths, and in kind regard
to others at the rooms whom we
not mich, and I remain

Yours most sincerely
G. C. Raynolds.

G. C. Raynolds
Dunlap - Jan. 23-1906.

G. C. Reynolds

Rec'd FEB 9 1906

Mülheim, Jan. 27th. 1906

Ans'd FEB 17 1906

Dear Dr. Barton,

Your kind letter of Jan. 10th. has just come to hand. Accept hearty thanks for the grant made for our expenses.

With regard to the matter of co-operation with the German Ev. I may be too optimistic, and it is of course possible that friction might occur. Mr. Knapp's letter spoke of the Germans having changed their ground somewhat, at times, and so desired to have some fixed plan of cooperation arranged which should avoid this trouble in the future. Pastor Lohman says that both Dr. Barmen and Mr. Macallum very decidedly desired that he should take a share in the good missionary work, & that with Dr. Barmen it was definitely proposed that he should assume the care of the Pahn district. Mr. Knapp says they are ready to adopt a plan of cooperation by which the evangelistic work of the station should be supervised by a

Com. of Americans, Germans and Armenians, either all funds put into a common treasury, or the Germans taking charge of a particular field. Pastor Lohmann prefers this latter plan, proposing that his representatives should have the power of vetoing decisions regarding the part of the field committed to them which did not meet with their approval. This was the arrangement we made with the Armenians when the Bible House Miss.y Soc. was formed, and I do not know that it is unreasonable.

Pastor Lohmann certainly talks very reasonably about the matter. He seems to feel quite as strongly as we do the harm that would come from two organizations working independently in the same field, so much so that he would forego the privilege of engaging in this work, rather than inaugurate such an injurious policy, and he assures me that he has no wish or thought of introducing any different policy in the work than that now in vogue. I find that the Pastors here in Germany look favorably on the plan of extending the work of their Soc. to include general missionary work and think that there the interest

in the Americans can be permanently maintained, while there is danger that interest may flag if there is only the orphanage work. They are doing work in China in connection with the China Inland Mission, a particular province being assigned to them, instead of organizing a separate Soc. to carry on work there.

Pastor Lohmann would be very glad to have some one of the Cour-ste missionaries be present at the meeting of his general Conf. which he hopes to hold, at Frankfort, May 15th. to met my plans as to time of returning from England, and would be very glad if there could be a representative from the Brud. Conf. also. It looks to me as if there were a field here, from, which the help our Brad finds it needs in Turkey, might be secured, and hopefully on such conditions as would be satisfactory, and by God's grace, would involve the minimum risk of friction. I have long felt that the Germans would wish to have a share in the general missionary work, and if they did it as a separate Soc., there would be more danger of friction, than if done

on some such plan as we pr[illegible]
This question is certainly an impor-
tant one, and should not be decid-
too hastily, or mainly or chiefly on
the strength of my personal opinio
might it not be possible to have
representatives from Boston an
Cons'pl. at their May meeting?
The very kind reception accorded
me here in Germany seems to in-
cate a readiness to welcome amer
can cooperation, and it seems
we desirable to cultivate this fie
& have one left of the five appoin
ments & am filling on the way
& am sorry if Pres. Roosevelt is go
ing to bolster up the matter of
status in Turkey. Do you think
will allow the Sultan to reject ou
demands and discriminate a
gainst us? It will be bad for ou
work if he does.
I expect that Mrs. R. will leave
Swalde this evening, make sou
calls in Berlin tomorrow, and
take the train for Hook of Holla
Wed. & meet her at Utrecht, and
reach Lond. Thurs. A.M. Feb. 1st
Hope you will receive my letter
book my Copenhagen visit.
With kindest regards to yourself
all friends, & am
Yours very faithfully
G. C. Raymolds

Rec'd MAR 2 1906
Ans'd FEB 7 1906

r Dr. Barton, Birmingham, Feb. 17th 1906.

Your favor of Jan. 23d. is received. m glad to know that you think favorably of peration with the German friends, and I pe we may all be guided aright in all that done about it. That the subject is not wholly thout its difficulties is doubtless true, and r friends at Van are finding that a man who s been sent out there since I left is not rving all that could be desired. Perhaps it well to have this incident in our own sta- n that I may not be too sanguine regard- the matter. I really wish some American ich myself could be present at the Frank- rt meeting, May 15th, but if that is not prac- able. I hope you and the brethren at the dif- ent stations will give me all the advice d help they can gather from their expe- ence, so that our mistakes may be made. re in England every one says that the in- est in the Armenians is declining, and is not easy to get gatherings for the pur- se of giving information, especially as ey have a way of arranging appoint- ents for months beforehand. Sec. Gutto- chett sent out over 60 letters asking for portunities for one to speak, but it is ot sure that he will secure one.

It seems to me it might be a good plan
for you to send some of our publications
out work in Turkey to some of the English
friends of our orphan work. Mrs. Maddain
e, Danehurst, Putney, S.W. London, is one of
our warm and faithful friends, but knows
so little about our mission work. Miss
Miss Mayo, The Lodge, Westwood Park, South-
ampton, Eng. is one who, with her sisters,
has been supporting some of our village
teachers for some years. Dr. L. Rendel
Miss, Chetwynd House, Selly Oak, near Birming
ham, where I am now stopping is one of our
warmest friends and he expresses a desire
see the Herald. I wrote you once about
the desire of Count von Oxholm, Bredgade 65,
Kopenhagen, Denmark. to find out about Japan
you would send him copies of all the pub-
lications on Japan advertized in the Herald,
think it would be nice, and you are at lib-
erty to charge them to my account. I am
wondering if he will retain his position
Chamberlain under the new king.
With kindest regards to yourself and all
inds from us both, I remain
Yours most sincerely
E. C. Raynolds.

Dr. O. C. Reynolds

Birmingham, Eng. Feb. 17-1906.

Rec'd MAR 10 1906
Ans'd MAR 26 1906

London, Feb. 26th 1906.

My dear Dr. Barton,

I believe I have no unanswered letters of yours, but I want to report the events of the last week or two.

We have spent a few days with dear Dr. and Mrs. Rendel Harris, most pleasantly, and left them last Thurs. A.M. coming as far as Rugby together, at which point Mrs. R. left me to go to Peterboro, to visit Mrs. Hodgin, the Miss Wilson who was with us, in Van, a few years.

On reaching London, I went to the Foreign Office, for an interview with Lord Fitzmaurice which had been arranged thro Mrs. Cole, which I am now

Rec'd MAR 10 1906
Ans'd MAR 26 1906

London, Feb. 24th 1906

My dear Dr. Barton,

I believe I have no unanswered letters of yours, but I want to report the events of the last week or two.

We have spent a few days with dear Dr. and Mrs. Rendel Harris, most pleasantly, and left them last Thurs. A.M. coming as far as Rugby together, at which point Mrs. R. left me to go to Peterboro, to visit Mrs. Hodgin, the Miss Wilson who was with us, in Van, a few years.

On reaching London, I went to the Foreign Office, for an interview with Lord Fitzmaurice, which had been arranged thro Mrs. Cole, what I am now

staying. It is "Mrs. Madelain Cole, Dunehurst, Putney, S.W." the lady who began relief work in Van, in 1895, thro Dr. Kimball. Her Soc. is "The Women's Armenian Relief Fund," and she has been persistently at work ever since, more especially for Van.

Lord Fitzmaurice was most courteous and sympathetic, but could not give much encouragement for immediate improvement in Armenian affairs. He thought Prof. Roosevelt was the one to move now, & spent that night with Mr. John Campbell, who spent two or three months with us at Van a few years ago, in evangelistic work. He had a lecture that evening, with lantern, on the work in Turkey, which I also

said a few words.

Frid. P.M. was the conference of the "Eastern Justices" Soc. It was not so very largely attended, the two gentlemen from Paris came over to attend it. I had a chance for a 15 minutes talk, as to present conditions in Industry. The same evening, and in the same room was a complimentary banquet to Mr. James Bryce, whose official connection with this Soc. must cease, now that he has accepted a cabinet place. I received a complimentary ticket for this also, and had an introduction to Mr. Bryce, who recognized my name, and was very cordial, and asked for my address. So I was

not so very much surprised
receive, the next day, an inv
tion to lunch at his hom
in Portland Place, yesterday
& rather regretted that it we
Sunday, but it seemed to
the object was so distinctly
the promotion of the Jewi
work, that it would not b
wise to decline such a kin
invitation. Both he an
Mrs. Brice were extremely
cordial, and of course, mos
sympathetic for the Jewi
ans. He said very decide
that Pres. Roosevelt was
one to move in this matt
at the present time, esp
in view of the refusal of t
Sultan to fulfill his prom
to recognise our works.
He said, "Why don't you

send two or three men-of-war to Turkish waters and keep them there till the object is effected?" I suggested there might be doubt about the Pres. having the support of the American people, at which he expressed surprise, and asked if meetings might not be held to increase popular interest in the question and secure a backing. He asked if a letter from himself to Sec. Root would do any good. Said he that Pres. Roosevelt might be sure of the moral support of England, and probably of France and Italy also.

I asked if he thot there would be any use in Pres. R. asking the cooperation of the German

Empire for protecting the common missionary work of German and American Societies, and he said the idea struck him favorably, and he thought it worth trying, as he knew that the Emperor was very desirous of securing the friendship of America.

I asked about the possibility of bringing the conditions of the Armenians before the approaching Hague conference. He said he had not very much confidence in Peace Congresses, but that it quite worth trying.

Pastor Yardumian, a Protestant Armenian Pastor at Philippopolis whom I saw when there, writes urging the formation of a mixed Com. of American

missionaries, Englishmen and American Protestants to press these matters on the attention of Pres. Roosevelt and the European Powers, and the Peace Congress.

It is evident that general sympathy for the Armenians, in Eng. and Germany, has much cooled, but we personally are being very kindly treated in both countries. I hope I shall not get too much puffed up with this attention.

An allowance for Feb. has not yet reached me. Possibly March and April might be sent together so that I might have it for me during the months for which it is granted.

Some funds are being secured for relief, but no large amounts, and no special

encouragement to hope our
large sums for the industri
plant will warrant. As there a
chance for that sort of hel
from America. We are a
waiting with much interes
the result of the effort to in
crease the income of the Bro
We plan to spend March i
Eng. April in Ireland, be i
Glasgow in May, and the
work eastward.

With kindest regards pro
us both to yourself and fam
the Strongs and Smiths and
Mrs. Inman and other frien

Yours most sincerely
G. C. Raynolds.

Mr. H. E. Reynolds
London. Eng.
Feb. 26. 1906.

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Rec'd MAR 12 1906

Ans'd MAR 26 1906

Chetwynd House,
Selly Oak,
Nr Birmingham.

Mar. 3. 1906.

My dear Dr. Barton,

Your favor of Feb. 17th. is just received and the news concerning Dr. and Mrs. Smith gives me great pain. I enclose a line for Dr. Smith, which will you be so kind as to forward to him.

Thanks you for the confidence you express in me as managing the negotiations with Pastor Lohmann. I feel that it is a very responsible position and wish that some some

one to share the responsi-
bility. I hope the Lord will
guide me aright, and I
trust you and the mis-
sionaries in the field
will give me all possible
assistance. Perhaps to
help me to realize the dif-
ficulties, the man they
had sent to Van last year
proves not the man for
the place, and I was a bit
anxious lest it should
cause some coolness in
our relations with Pastor
Lehmann, but he appre-
ciates the situation, and
recalls the man, and is to
send another younger man,
whom Mrs. K. and I have
seen and like. Pastor L.
proposes to assume the
whole care of the orphan-

age, retaining present patrons as far as possible, but as I am to be considered the Bus. of this work at Rar, I can continue the correspondence with English speaking patrons, and I think they will not then object to this arrangement, and it will lighten my labors. Questions of use of buildings must be considered. Will you object to this using the buildings on our premises which were erected by our pharaoh friends, so long as the work is carried on together?

The Bible question is a little more difficult. The Misses Ely do not seem to take to a divisi-

union of the stations.
Have you any hope of
ing them another man.
If a man is to be sent th
or to Van, I think it mig
be better to send him to
Bitlis, but if not, and
we can have a good G
man gentleman at Va
and one at Bitlis I
think we might get on
with the present unm
can price. It is desi
rable to have the questi
settled as soon as ma
be. With kindest regards
to all friends
Yours in haste. but
most truly

G. C. Raynolds.

Rev. G. C. Raynolds
Allen Clark Esq.
Mar. 3-1906.

Rec'd APR 23 1906
Ans'd MAY 1 1906

Dublin, April. 9th 1906.

Ans'd APR 30 1906

Dear Dr. Barton,

Your favor of Feb. 28th with inclosures came to hand Sat. I had been intending to write you, making a confession regarding interview telegraphed to the Chicago Daily News, which the item you inclose seems to have been indeed. This correspondent in London sent a request to call, and we had a free talk about Irish affairs. He then made up his article a strangely of which he read to me. I did not like quite easy about it, but he was very anxious and it and over-persuaded me that it would all right, its special object being to help educate public opinion, to make it easier for Roosevelt to do something at last toward securing the fulfilment of the promise of recognition. But when I saw the item in the paper it looked so much worse than it had indeed at first, that I was quite troubled about it, fearing that it might make trouble both for me personally and for the work. I repented bitterly, but that did not recall the article, I now I can only pray God to forgive me, and as far as possible, prevent harm from coming from it, or even overrule it; as he has done

some of my other mistakes for his glory and the good of his cause.

I have felt it to be my duty to let the course which the Turkish Govt. is pursuing, in taking the people to death, be known, and to try and correct the very prevalent opinions about the Armenians, and to do this I have to tell a little of recent political history. I do not know whether I have made mistakes or not.

I inclose a paper which I have drawn up as a suggestion for a presentation of the position for the meeting of the German Com. May 15th. I am sending a copy also to Pastor Lohmann, and have suggested that he prepare a paper to present his views if possible, in time to be submitted for revision to you, before the meeting. Should you wish to address me at the last moment send to c/o Mr. Röttger, 51 Mittelgasse, Cassel, G.

Of course I have prepared this only as a suggestion for you to use or not, or modify as you may all think.

We are now guests of dear Lady Anderson, and find lots of friends here, but keep a little too busy to visit through sick. Mrs. R. joins in warm greetings to all our dear friends, and I remain Yours most sincerely

G. C. Raynolds.

Rec'd APR 20 1906
Ans'd APR 30 1906

Suggestions for a plan of cooperation between the A.B.C.F.M. and the German Hülfsbund (?) in work for the Armenians in Asiatic Turkey.

Ans'd APR 30 1906

The A.B.C.F.M. most gratefully recognising the exceedingly efficient aid afforded by our German friends, during the last ten years in the field occupied in common by them and our own missionaries, in the care of Armenian orphans and the furnishing of nurses for its hospitals, would most cordially welcome their cooperation in a somewhat more extended sphere of work than in the past. One of the results of this common orphanage work has been the preparation of a body of workers prepared to act as teachers and evangelists in the villages, thus advancing the evangelistic and educational work which we have been carrying on during the last 75 years. We greatly desire to see these departments of our work going forward, but alas! we find our income insufficient to provide for them as they need. Now it seems most appropriate that those, who have shared with us in the preparation of these workers, should share also in sending them into the field, and we are very glad to know that there is a

desire on the part of these friends, thus to extend the sphere of this work. We are grateful for the regard for missionary unity, which makes them unwilling to inaugurate a separate work, which might give to the people the impression that our counsels were divided, and tend to introduce friction among the workers. We feel a large measure of confidence that a joint work may be so carried on as to insure that harmonious and united action, which is so essential to success.

We realize that there are some difficulties and dangers to be considered and avoided when workers of different nationalities, with somewhat diverse characteristics and education, attempt to take part in a common work. We gladly recognize the fact that the introduction of a new element into our work may hopefully bring with it new wisdom and suggestions of modification in methods of work, which may prove helpful, and we shall be very glad to avail ourselves of all such suggestions, not insisting on the continuance of present methods when improvement can be secured.

On the other hand, we are sure our German

friend will recognise the fact that the work has been built up through the consecrated wisdom and common sense of many workers, during the experience of many years, and that it is the part of wisdom to avoid sudden and sweeping changes, and to continue on its present lines until the majority are convinced of the desirability of modifications.

The particular method of cooperation will naturally vary in different fields, according to the varying circumstances prevailing in them. It would seem natural that in some places it should seem best for the German friends to take some special section of the field as their own sphere while in other places it might seem better to carry on the whole work by a common supervision, each contributing a definite share of the expense. These matters will doubtless be best arranged, in each field, by the mutual consultations of the local representatives of the two societies. In general, we would suggest the following as a basis of cooperation.

Each society to have a voice in the settlement of all questions relating to the personnel of employés, places to be occupied, salaries to be paid

proportion of said salaries to be provided by the people, and similar questions of administration, the number of votes which each society shall have being proportioned to the amount of funds furnished for the work.

Any proposal for a radical change in the methods of work hitherto employed at any station should be presented to the executive body at least one meeting before a vote is taken on it, and should require a two thirds vote to carry it.

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Rec'd MAY 4 1906
Ans'd MAY 7 1906

Dungannon, Ireland, Apr. 24th 1906.

ear Dr. Barton,

I wrote you only a short time since, but we
ve just heard from Miss McLaren that she feels that
e absolutely must leave Van, next summer to go
d care for her father. We all regret this necessity
ost keenly and hope she will be able again to
turn to the work at Van. She has a very strong
ire to devote herself to touring work, and this is
y much needed, so that it would be very desi-
ble, even if she staid, to have another lady to take
care of the girls' School, but her going renders this
uch more imperative. I write to ask if it might
r be possible to send some one at once, so that
e might join our party in July, and be at Van
fore the next year's term begins, tho of course, she
uld not do much teaching, if any, the first year.
t her presence would be worth something, and
e would be the sooner ready for real work.
f it were possible to send a family for Bitlis at
same time it would be very nice indeed.
e are hoping to have quite a little company at Van
is summer. Dr. Peck of Beirut and his two sons
e hoping to be there, and Dr. H. S. Barnum, and
stor John Lehmann, and whether any others, I
not know. Oh! yes Mr. Ehrmann of Mezireh also

expects to go on with a young man named von Dorbelar who is going to Van to take the place of Herr Spörri, and who has already started, via Erzerum.

We are having a very pleasant visit in the north of Ireland. The last two Sundays have been well filled with meetings at Belfast and here. We are now with Lady Anderson's Sister, Mrs. Bancroft, at a charming country home, where it is delightfully restful. Hope the paper I sent from Dublin about the German cooperation, has reached you.

Mrs. R. joins in hearty greetings to yourself and family and other friends at the rooms, and I am

Yours most sincerely

G. C. Raynolds.

Will you be so kind as to hand the enclosed letter to Dr. Strong for Mrs. Means.

G. C. Raynolds

Dungannon-Ire.

Nov. 24-1906

Rec'd MAY 21 1906

10 Drayton Parks,
Highbury, N. May 11th '06.

r Dr. Barton,

It seems appropriate
fore leaving England, and
nally turning our faces
ward again, to send you
hort message, and I will
k you also to be kind enough
hand to Mr. Wiggin the enclos-
time to him.

Sergh Monday we hope to cross
ermany, and so bid farewell,
obably for the last time, to
glish-speaking lands.

wrote you once while I was
Ireland. The whole of our vis-
there was delightful, and there
ime, we were accorded a re-
tion and appreciation very
above what was deserved.

& hope it may prove an inspiration to us to do better work in the future if the Lord spares us, and make the remnant of our time better worth while than the past has been.

The weather was very blustering during the last few days of our stay in Dublin, but in kindness the Lord granted us a smooth passage across to Holyhead, and we spent two nights most pleasantly in Liverpool. On the first evening I had a meeting in a hall, and the second was spent with Mr. Alfred Booth, one of our most generous patrons, who has just sent £ 8 s. for the building to be erected for lace and other industrial work, near our premises. A very pleasant drawing room meeting after-

held at his elegant home that evening.

Day before yesterday there was a drawing room meeting here, at Grosvenor St. advertized as a farewell meeting for us. Mr. Lynch and Mr. Newel Bryton were present and spoke most kindly and appreciatively of the work of the American missionaries in Turkey, with very kind words for ourselves also.

At his request, I saw Mr. Bryce last Monday, and again he expressed a strong desire that Pres. Roosevelt might do something for the Armenians. He suggested that I see Lord Fitzmaurice again, which I did. Bot. were very sympathetic and told me to feel free to write

to them direct, if I saw occas

Miss Hofman, who is board
in this house, says that dear
Strong is having trouble wi
his eyes. Please assure hi
our deep sympathy in this
and we shall hope and pra
that he may soon be relie

Mrs. Raynolds joins in lo
to yourself and family an
to the Strongs and Mrs. Mea
and Dr. Smith, and I rema

Yours most sincerely
G. C. Raynolds

R. E. Rainsford
Lafayette Co. Mo.
March 11-1906.

Address: c/o M. Leopold Favre
Rue de Granges, Geneva, Switzerland

Rec'd MAY 31 1906

Alliance House, Blankenburg
Thuringia, Germany, May 19th. 06.

Ans'd JUN 1 1906

Dear Dr. Barton,

Your favor of May 7th. reached me this morning, just before we left Cassel, and I am now just arrived Blankenburg and will answer at once.

Of course it will be my pleasure to do anything in my power to further the Lord's work wherever I can. to the propositions to look into the conditions of affairs in Russia, if you really think I can do any good that I be glad to attempt it, tho I do not feel any very great confidence in being able. If it is best attempt it my thought would be to start on days or a fortnight before the party does and end that amount of time in this work before they arrive, so as to be ready to go on to Van with them, when they come. I should be very unwilling to stay behind the rest of the party in Van, for many reasons. I should want to in Van when the different friends whom we pe to see there this summer, are there. We hope the three Drs. Post will visit us, that Dr. H. S. Cumming, M. Favre of Geneva, Pastor H. Lohmann ll be of our party, and possibly Mr. Ehmann of Zurich may be there at the same time, tho he may earlier. I feel that it is very important

for the success of our cooperative work, that I should be there when Pastor Oncken is there, and I think I ought to go with him to Bitti's and Mrosk.

We had rather planned for the party to start from Berlin about July 5th. & reach Van, July 21st.; but it is quite possible they might be able to delay one week. If I were to start from Geneva say June 25th. I think I might reach Baku the 30th. & have between two and three weeks to circulate in the Caucasus before the others arrive. This will give time for this letter to reach you and your answer to reach me at Geneva before time for me to start. Of course I should need definite instructions as to where you wish me to go and what to do. It would be pleasant to have a companion, and it seems to me as just possible that Dr. H. S. Barnum might be able to join me in this trip, but I do not know.

Our conference at Cassel was, I hope, pretty satisfactory, but I will not give a report of that at this time. Mrs. R. does not feel sure whether she will go with me to Geneva, or stay here until near time for starting and join the party at Berlin. I have meetings in Nuremberg, Strasburg and Colmar on my way to Geneva.

With love to all friends from us both,

Yours most sincerely

G. C. Raynolds.

Rec'd JUN 19 1906

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6 Rue des Granges, June 7th 1906.

Ans'd JUN 23 1906

ear Dr. Barton,

I have this morning received from reienwalde copies of the papers agreed upon at e Cassel conference. I am asked to sign them the representative of our Board at this conference nd forward to you. If our Board accepts the lan, its indorsement to be subscribed, and ne copy retained at Boston, the other returned to Pastor Ernst Lohmann, Freienwalde a/Oder ermany. May the Lord add his blessing.

With regard to the work in the Caucasus, the lan I have formed is to spend Sunday June 24th Vienna, reach Batum June 30th. spend three eks in that region, as per your request, and et the rest of the party at Echmiadzin Jul. 21. nd reach Van July 28th. Political conditions Russia are still very unsettled, and events ay transpire which will make it impossible carry out this plan. There are many Russian menians in this city, who are in close telegraphic communication with the Caucasus, that I presume this is as good a place to ind out probabilities as I could find, but at time like this a month may change the hole situation. I have written to several people who might be able to give me helpful in-

formation, and among them to Mr. Grubb wh
has been working in St. Petersburg this winter.
Thro him I am informed that during July a
August many of the people of Tiflis and othe
cities go to the mountains, or that it is not
the best time for work there. I think Pastor Lo
mann plans to spend some time in work i
Russia after he leaves Van. I am committi
this whole matter to the Lord asking him to gu
us and not permit any mistakes to be made
Dr. Barnum has given some hope that he m
join me for the Russian work, if I go.

Since leaving Blankenburg I have spent
day at Nuremburg, giving two addresses at
convention being held there on Ascension d.
have also had two meetings in Strasburg a
the following Sunday, and one at Colmar o
Monday. Then I came here, where I am ha
ing a delightfully restful time in the elegan
home of Mr. Favre. Mrs. Raynolds stays
Blankenburg while she seems to find it ple

With love to all your good friends, I am

Yours most sincerely

G. C. Raynolds.

Rec'd JUN 22 1906

6 Rue des Granges, Geneva, June 11th 1906.

Ans'd JUN 2 1906

Dear Dr. Barton,

The questions concerning the return of our party to Van, and my proposed tour in Russia, have been much on my mind since I wrote you from Blankenburg. I wrote to a good many people who might give me information, and have watched the course of events in Russia, and have especially committed the whole matter to the Lord and asked His guidance. Those familiar with the Caucasus say that during July and August the cities and large towns are usually almost deserted all who can flying from the great heat, and that Sep. and Oct. would be the best months for this work. I think that Pastor Ohmann intends to spend some time in evangelistic work there after leaving Van. Should you wish it and think it worth while, I should be quite willing to go with him then, or you might feel that his report would suffice. It is suggested as desirable that such a tour should begin with an interview with the Catholicos.

It is evident that affairs in Russia at present are in a state of very unstable equilibrium, and serious general disturbances are liable to occur anywhere and at any time. Under such circumstances it not only seems hardly prudent to trust

one's self in the country for a month, as my tour would make necessary, but it would be of doubtful prudence for the party to take so long a trip thro the country, and hence my present inclination is to go via Cons'ple. by some steamer that goes to Batoum, calling at Trebizond. This avoids necessity of transfer at Cons'ple. and makes it possible at that place to decide between the Batoum and Treb. routes, according to conditions then existing, and wire the friends at Van which way to send to meet us. I hope you will approve the decision to at least postpone the tour in the Caucasus to a time when it might hopefully accomplish more than now.

Since I wrote you, sending the papers from the Cassel meeting, I have had a meeting here in Mr. Fauri's house, with about 60 present and have spoken at the American Church. Next Thurs. I am to attend the meeting of the Swiss Armenian Com. at Berne, and to have a meeting under Prof. Godet's care at Neuchatel. I am intensely enjoying my stay here, the most restful place I have found yet. Mrs. R. seems to be enjoying it pretty well at Blankenburg.

With best wishes and earnest prayers for the success of all your work and kind regards to all workers, Yours most sincerely

G. C. Raynolds.

Geneva Switz. June 11-1906

Rec'd AUG 31 1904

Van, July 31st. 1904.

Rec'd AUG 25 19

Dear Dr. Barton,

I am glad to say that our party, consisting of Mr. Favre, Pastor Lohmann, Mr. Sprüri & 2 daughters & Sister Anna Wally reached our home safe last Wed & on Sat. welcomed Dr. H. S. Barnum. We expect Mr. Shmann of Mezerah on Thurs. & 2 Dr. Bach next week. We were able to come thro Kifira, the general unrest prevails there, without any untoward experiences, & what a warm welcome we from native & foreign friends. We have very great occasion for the devout gratitude we feel to God, for all the way He has led us & pray that we may be used to accomplish great good for Him here. Mr. R. joins in warm love to yourself & family, Dr. Smith the Strongs & Mrs. Innis and all the friends at the rooms and I remain

Yours most truly G. C. Raynold,

Rec'd SEP 4 1906 144

Van, Aug. 6th. 1906.

Dear Dr. Barton,

Ans'd OCT 5 1906

I think I sent you a postal last week, to let you know that we were safely at home again. It would be appropriate to prepare a circular letter for my friends to tell of our homeward journey, but there is so much to occupy my time and attention, that I do not yet find time for doing this.

I do not find any record of having writen you since the early part of June, while I was still in Geneva, with Mr. Favre. I spent the greater part of June with Mr. Favre, and it was in every way an ideal visit and rest for me. I made a few addresses, but not enough to be atall fatiguing, and the whole surroundings and life there were most delightful. I went to Basle and Nuechatell for addresses and at the latter place to visit Mr. Röesler, who was in Van a few months some years since, and is now settled as a Methodist minister at that place. June 26th. I started for Vienna, at which place Mrs. Raynolds met me, coming directly from Blankenburgh, and we spent one day there. It happened that Tutor Eddie, from Robert College was at the same hotel, and we spent the day together. Leaving Vienna Friday morning, we reached Sofia, where we stopped off and spent a very pleasant Sunday with Dr. Clarke and went on our way toward Cons'p'e Monday. We had a five minutes' visit with Sec. Gentle-Gackett, of the B.L.M.A. Soc. as our trains met, and a similar visit with Dr. and Mrs. Haskell and Consul Heathcote, formerly of Bitlis, as we passed thro Philippopolis, and reached Cons'ple Tues. morning. We were kindly allowed to stop at the Gedik Pasha school, the cook being there and caring for us, during the six days we were there. The German party reached that city on Thursday, and Mr. Favre on Sat. and on Monday we embarked for Batoum. There were so many reports of disturban-

es in Russia, that we were in great doubt as to the safety of going that way, and even took our tickets only to Treb. at first, but we did not get any bad reports at that place, where we had a brief but pleasant call at Dr. Crawford's and Dr. Jewett's, but at Batoum the agent from the consulate told us that they had sent us a discouraging tel to Treb. which we did not get. There was not time to get the things that would have to pay duties thro the customs that night, but we took the train at once for Tiflis, and arranged for a young man from the consulate to bring down the things, and this made just the arrangement necessary for Miss McLaren to have company to Batoum. She arrived early Sunday morning, Mr. Yarrow coming with her, and left late the same evening, found a steamer read y at Batoum, and reached Cons'ple. on Thursday, just ten days from time of starting from Van.

We left for Van Monday P.M., were detained one day at the border by the carelessness of the custurgee, who let his horses run away during the night, but the dalay was on the whole an advantage, as it gave Mrs Ogden a chance to come a stage farther, with a carriage, to meet us, and this made it easier for his family. Wednesday, July 29th. we reached Van, just eight days less than a year from the time of starting. We met with a most cordial welcome from our associates, and from the people, Protestant, Gregorian and Turkish, quite large numbers coming out to meet us. The following Sat. Dr. Barnum arrived, having left G. before we arrived, and having visited Erzroom and Bitlis on the way. Last Thursday Mr. Fhsann, from the Nesereh German orphanage arrived, and I think his presence will be very helpful in arranging our relations with the Germans in our work. We are hoping some time this week to welcome Dr. Post, of Beirut and his son from Robert Coll. but do not yet know how long they will stay. It seems probable that our company will break up about Aug. 16th. and that I shall go with the German friends

to Bitlis, to consider the question of German cooperation there.

I think that I shall be able to stand by my proposition concerning my vacation expenses, without any great loss, and that the continuation of the vacation allowance thro July will suffice without asking anything extra for return travelling expenses. The fact that our German friends paid the most of our expenses while in that country, on account of the work I was doing for them, and that we received a few small presents from friends in England, for our personal expenses is what has made it possible for us to do this without drawing on home investments.

Our year of absence has been a very delightful experience, my regret being that I can not feel that I have made the advance in religious experience which I had hoped for, and which I ought to have done. I seem to have received some new ideas of spiritual possibilities, without having actually entered into the experiences of which others tell. I need the prayers of my friends that I may reach the place of privelege and power.

Your favor of June 30th. reporting the death of Dr. Smith came by last post. My own relations with Dr. Smith have been sufficient to greatly endear him to me, our best acquaintance having been in England and Switzerland, during our return trip from America, in 1894, when we were with Dr. and Mrs. Smith for two or three weeks, so that I feel a sense of personal bereavement again in his death. The loss to the Board and to the cause of Foreign Missions is very great, and it is our prayer that the Lord will provide speedily a worty successor for him, for you all need to be relieved from the pressure of your own burdens rather than to be obliged to take up those of others. We can but be thankful, for them that the lives so closely united here could be so soon reunited in the better world.

Wife joins in love for the dear friends at the rooms and I remain

Yours most sincerely G. C. Raynolds.

to Africa, to consider the question of German cooperation there.

I think that I shall be able to stand by my proposition concerning my vacation expenses, without any great loss, and that the continuation of the vacation allowance thru July will suffice without asking anything extra for return travelling expenses. The fact that our German friends paid the most of our expenses while in that country, on account of the work I was doing for them, and that we received a few small presents from friends in England, for our personal expenses is what has made it possible for us to do this without drawing on home investments.

Our year of absence has been a very delightful experience, by reason being that I can not feel that I have made the advance in religious experience which I had hoped for, and which I ought to have done. I seem to have received some new ideas of spiritual possibilities, without having actually entered into the experiences of which others tell. I need the prayers of my friends that I may reach the place of privilege and power.

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With joins in love for the dear friends at the rooms and I remain

Yours most sincerely

G. C. Reynolds, M. D.
Vash. Turkey. Aug. 6. 1906

Rec'd SEP 17 1906 145

Dear Dr.Barton, Van, Aug. 21st. 1906.

Ans'd OCT 5 1906

Last week's post brought your letter inclosing clippings from the papers concerning the reports in the Russian papers about troubles in Van. I am glad to report that they are quite without foundation, unless a little disturbance which took place in the prison a few weeks since may have been the basis ~~in the prison here,~~ in which an officer beat a number of the political prisoners, so that one died and several were severely wounded. Nothing of a general character has taken place or even been apprehended, and the city is as quiet as usual. I am very sorry that such a report should have been spread, both for general reasons, and because it may have caused some anxiety to friends who saw it. Should anything occur, which we see no reason at present to expect, we will try to let you know at once, by wire. Thro the British Consul, we should probably be able to get word to the outer world at once, and so I think you may feel pretty safe in disbelieving any reports which are not confirmed by word from us.

We have been very greatly enjoying the visits of our friends during the past few weeks, and last Thursday Messrs. Favre, Lohmann and Ehmann left us and Dr. Barnum the following morning. The Drs. Post have had a pretty hard time on their journey since leaving Harpoot. No caravan being ready just then, they came via Diarbekir instead of via Moosh, and from there to Bitlis they were very uncomfortable, and the father was pretty sick when he reached Bitlis. After a week or more there, he ventured to start out in a moffa, and improved by the way, so that he was in pretty good condition when he reached us last Friday, but the son was used up, and went at once to bed, and has not yet left it, tho he hopes to do so today, as the fever, which threatened to be typhoid, seems to have broken. They now are thinking of going out via Erzroom instead of via Russia, but will not be strong enough to leave before Friday.

On account of the coming of the Posts, I did not go with the other party, as I had intended, but am expecting to start tomorrow or next day, for Bitlis, for a conference with Pastor Lohmann, on his return from Moosh, and the Bitlis circle, regarding the taking up of work there by the Germans.

The conference here has not been quite so satisfactory as we had expected. In the orphanage matter, they are putting up new buildings for the boys on a new lot they have bought, not very far away, and if they will listen to our opinions concerning the girls, and leave them in their present quarters, the arrangement will have many advantages, but this question is not yet decided. In the line of cooperation in general work, they have not yet consented to give so large a sum as we had hoped and as we need, but it may be that they will come to it.

I hope that the work for the coming year will be more satisfactory than it has been during recent years, when the superintendence I have been able to render has been so inadequate. Mr. and Mrs. Yarrow are taking hold well and promise to work in finely into our circle. We very greatly need some one to take Miss McLaren's place. We are also hoping that some one may very speedily be found to come to Bitlis and release the Coles, since they feel it absolutely imperative that they go soon.

Mrs. Raynolds has not been very well since our return, but seems better today than for some time, and I hope will soon be herself again. She joins in love to all the friends at the rooms and at Auburndale, and I remain

Yours most sincerely

G. C. Raynolds.

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Yours most sincerely

Van Lucky.

Aug. 24-1906

146

Van, Sep. 3rd. 1906.

Dear Erz. Friends,

Tho I have been home for several weeks, I have not yet found time to attend to many of my correspondents, but you are not forgotten. I hope Mr. Favre and Dr. Barnum had a successful trip both to and from Erz. The Drs. Post did think of going that way, but finally decided to go via Miflis. Pastor Lohmann expects to start tomorrow for the same place, and probably this will finish up our list of visitors for this year, i.e. those who are our own guests, but Consul Geary of Bitlis is expected today or tomorrow, with our Van Consul, Capt. Dickson. I suppose you have seen the latter.

It has been very pleasant to see so many friends from abroad this year, but I am not quite sure I should care to have the experience repeated every year, as it rather interferes with the work we need to do.

We had the pleasure of meeting Miss Foote in Cons'ple, and Miss Lord in Trebizond, and I hope they have both got on well since then. We shall be glad of news regarding them, and will you please give them my very kind regards, when you write.

While Pastor Lohmann has been here, I have had to give a good deal of time to consultation with the Germans over orphanage work, and hereafter my time will be as much occupied as formerly with this branch, as I am appointed the "Station Leader" for the Germans, who now take charge of the whole orphanage work. A new lot has been purchased, where buildings are being erected for the boys, but I hope it may be possible for the girls to stay in their present quarters. The Germans are also helping us in village work.

No time for more today, wife would join in love were she here, but she is at Artemid, and has not been very well of late.

Yours affectionately

G. C. Raynolds.

Van, Turkey
Aug. 24-1906

Van, Sep. 3rd. 1906.

Dear Mrs. Reynolds,

Tho I have been home for several weeks, I have not yet found time to attend to many of my correspondents, but you are not forgotten. I hope Mr. Payne and Dr. Parman had a successful trip both to and from Fez. The Mrs. Post did think of going that way, but finally decided to go via Tangiers. Pastor Johnson expects to start tomorrow for the same place, and probably this will finish up our list of visitors for this year, i.e. those who are our own guests, but Consul General of Britain is expected today or tomorrow, with our Van Consul, Capt. Dickson. I suppose you have seen the latter.

It has been very pleasant to see so many friends from around this year, but I am not quite sure I should care to have the experience repeated very often, it rather interferes with the work we need to do.

We had the pleasure of meeting Miss Foote in Cons'ple, and Miss Lord in Trebizond, and I hope they have both got on well since then. We shall be glad of news regarding them, and will you please give them my very kind regards, when you write.

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No time for more today, wife would join in love were she here, but she is at Artemid, and has not been very well of late.

Yours affectionately

N. O. Reynolds

Van - Turkey
Sept. 3-1906
Kindly return letter.

Rec'd OCT 6 1906

147

Van, Sep. 11th. 1906.

Dear Dr. Barton,

Only just time for a line to ask you to be kind enough to forward the inclosed letter to Miss McLaren, wherever she may be.

Our numerous guests have all left us now, and we are hard at work trying to get the orphanage and schools into running order. I find that 24 hours are not nearly enough to enable me to accomplish what each day brings to do.

I am sorry to report the situation here as somewhat critical. The revolutionists have pretty much taken over the oversight of the vilayet. The Armenists and Tashnagists are bitterly at strife with eachother, and have had one or two considerable skirmishes already, and each threaten to kill the chief men of the other party. They are also making our own position exceedingly delicate, interfering with our work, especially at Vosgepag, where there is danger that their presence may bring us under the suspicion of the Govt. At Akhtamar a large school house has been built, and a high school opened, really under their supervision, in which infidelity is openly taught, in a way to endanger the religious status of the people.

Should any outbreak occur, I have little doubt that we should be able to send word to the outside world thro the British consul here, so that you may feel safe in discrediting reports of trouble which are not confirmed from us.

With love from us both for all friends

Yours most sincerely

G. C. Raynolds.

Van, Sep. 11th. 1906.

Dear Dr. Barton,

Only just time for a line to ask you to be kind enough to forward the inclosed letter to Miss Clarken, wherever she may be.

Our numerous guests have all left us now, and we are hard at work trying to get the orphanage and schools into running order. I find that 24 hours are not nearly enough to enable me to accomplish what each day brings to do.

I am sorry to report the situation here as somewhat critical. The revolutionists have pretty much taken over the overright of the village. The Armenists and Tashnagists are bitterly at strife with each other, and have had one or two considerable skirmishes already, and each threatens to kill the chief men of the other party. They are also making our own position exceedingly delicate, interfering with our work, especially at Vosgan where there is danger that their presence may bring us under the suspicion of the Govt. At Akhtamar a large school house has been built, and high school opened, really under their supervision, in which incidentally is partly taught, the way to endanger the religious status of the people.

Should any outbreak occur, I have little doubt that we should be able to send word to the outside world thro the British consul here, so that you may feel safe in disregarding reports of trouble which are not confirmed from us.

With love from us both for all friends

Yours most sincerely

G. C. Raynolds.

Barton Murray

Sept. 11-1906

Rec'd OCT 15 1906

148

Van, Sep. 17th. 1906.

Dear Dr. Barton,

I believe you have expressed a desire to hear frequently from us here in Van, in view of the supposed delicate situation existing here, and I venture to ask you to be so kind as to send the inclosed letter to B. Marderos, the preacher of the Armenian congregation in connection with Park St. Ch. and so I will give you just a word also of the situation.

The revolutionists are becoming more and more in evidence, and seem to be assuming to superintend the entire affairs of the Armenians, settling their quarrels in summary fashion, and dictating generally what they are to do. It is only now that they are beginning especially to come into conflict with us and our work. We applied to the Govt. for protection for our sheep, and they sent a zabtieh to guard our property. This did not meet the approval of the Rs. as it endagered their people circulating there, and they sent a letter to our man who had presented our petition to the Govt. peremptorily demanding the withdrawal of the zabtieh, on penalty of personal harm to him. Of course we can not permit dictation in our affairs, but how such matters are to be settled it is hard to know. They are starting a large school at Akhtamar, in which open instruction in infidel lines is given. The Armenists and Tashnegists are bitterly opposed to each other, and this is liable at any time to precipitate disturbance.

I have writen to Dr. Haskell asking the experience of the Macedonian missionaries in dealing with the Rs. It is certainly becoming a serious question with us what we are to do. Of course you will understand that what I have thus writen is not for the public.

With kindest regards from wife and self for all friends

Yours most sincerely

G. C. Raynolds.

F. C. Magnolias

Van-Turkey. Sept. 17-1906

Rec'd DEC 24 1906

Van, Nov. 26th. 1906.

Ans'd MAY 29 1907

Dear Dr. Barton,

Your kind favor of Oct. 6th. was especially welcome as telling us in advance, the cheering news that the debt was lifted and the Million mark reached. We missed one post that should have brought the full accounts of the meeting, but they came the next week, but I have not yet found time to finish the reading. We see possible good as resulting from your carrying the Secretarial care of all the missions, but it does seem as if it were too heavy a burden for one man to carry. We are glad you are to be able to visit some parts of the mission field which you have not seen as yet, and hope it will bring you needed rest as well as increased acquaintance with the work. The meeting must indeed have been an inspiring one, and reading the reports of it made me feel still more how good it would have been for me to have visited my Alma Mater at just that time, but still I do not regret being back here at my work instead, and will content myself with enjoying the meeting at second hand. I do hope that the Churches will keep up their enthusiasm and increase it, and not allow the Board again to get into debt.

Did I report that some of our people, church members and others, have adopted a theory that if we give up our separate church organization, we shall find such an open door into the old church, as will enable us to do a better work than we are now doing? Some of the number may be sincere, but it seems as if the graater part were seeking thus to escape their obligations, and we can but feel that it is a device of the devil to prevent the progress of the work, but we do not believe that any very great harm will be done, tho they have succeeded in preventing those who might have come into the church from doing so. Other matters remain about as reported. The epidemic sickness seems to be letting up a little and only three from the orphanage have fallen victims, tho many hundreds have died in the city and villages. The general outlook forthe winter continues to be very dark.

Thanks for the kind wishes concerning vacation expenses, but I think

that when the July allowance gets along, I shall be all right, and we shall try to swing the present year's expenses on the regular salary, tho those who have larger families than we have find considerable difficulty.

Wife joins in best wishes for the holidays and for the whole of the coming year, which we hope may prove a blessed one to you and yours. Will Mrs. Barton accompany you on your eastern trip? I remain

Yours most sincerely

G. C. Raynolds.

P.S. You ask about an invasion of English missionaries in Van. As you may know, the missionaries of the Archbishop of Canterbury to the Nestorians have made this the centre for their work, as Mr. McDowell of the Pres. mission has done, and they are intending to erect buildings next summer, but we have no information of anything else in that line. Their work is not atall for the Armenians.

Rev. Frank G. Raynolds
Nov. 26-1906.

MAR - 2 1907

Van, Jan. 21st. 1907.

My dear Dr. Strong,

It is pleasant to know that we may be permitted to correspond with you during the absence of Dr. Barton, and we have all greatly enjoyed Mrs. Strong's most interesting letter, to Mrs. Raynolds, recently received. We do all hope that Dr. Barton's trip may be restful to him and greatly useful to the work, and we shall pray for his safety and success all the way.

I inclose you a copy of a circular letter I have writen this morning, telling of a thrilling experience which our dear Mr. McDowell has just had, in returning from his mountain field, thinking it would interest you to know about it.

Our Vali is just now being changed, the new man being expected this week or next. We shall be very sorry to lose Tahir Pasha, who has certainly permitted us to do many things which we could not have hoped to do, especially in erecting the hospital and church. He has not done what he ought to do in the matter of restoring the stolen sheep, but he has been friendly to us. What attitude the new man may assume remains to be seen. The revolutionists are very much in evidence here now, and assume to govern the Armenians, but it does not seem to be their policy to stir up disturbance just now. Still the situation is much like a powder magazine, which a chance match may easily cause to explode. Ouar local government is insisting that we must pay our taxes, and as no word from Cons'ple. to the contrary has reached them, it is reasonable from their stand point. Unless our Government is able to secure the fulfillment of promises considered as given, it would seem that the instructions to refuse the payment of taxes was premature. These matters might well be expected to cause our new Vali to take a position of hostility to us and our work.

Mrs. Raynolds joins in kindest greetings to yourself and family and I remain

Yours most sincerely

G. C. Raynolds

Dr. Geo. C. Reynolds
Van Jan 21 '07

MAR 25 1907

MAR 16 1907
Strong

Van, Jan. 21st. 1907.

Dear Friends,

I feel sure that you all will be interested in hearing of an experience of our dear friend, Mr. McDowell, and so I will tell you a little of it this morning. Most of you know something of Mr. McDowell, the missionary of the Presbyterian Board, living here and working for the mountain Nestorians. His earnest spirituality and self-denying spirit are a constant incentive ~~to us all~~. ~~He~~ My brother missionary is accustomed to spend his winters away from his family, among those wild people, away from all the comforts of civilization, a part of the time among the mountains of Jelu, Bass, etc. and a part in the southern part of the field, near Jezereh and Mosul. As it is somewhat difficult to pass directly from one of these regions to the other, he determined, this year, to come home in mid winter, and go to the south via Bitlis, and he arrived here last week. ¶ It was an experience on his home trip that I want to tell you of. Turkey is called a "Yawash, yawash" (slow) country, but he ~~fou~~ found a way of travelling three miles in two minutes, a record which the fast expresses do not often exceed. This he did by taking passage on a passing avalanche! It was about two P.M. when they crossed the summit of a high mountain, and began the descent towards a village in the valley below, the path zig-zagging down the steep declivity, and usually taking about four or five hours for the journey. Nineteen men of the party had got on to a body of soft snow, which lay on a layer of frozen snow beneath, when it started down the mountain, carrying its unwilling passengers, with almost the speed of a cannon ball, for three miles, down the almost perpendicular descent, and delivering them, at the bottom, near to the village, in two minutes! Some of the party were spilled off at different points on the way down, but most of them went to the end of the trip. ¶ Mr. McDowell says that for the first half, or more of the way, it was like a smooth, swift tobaggan trip, but then, owing to small hills on the path, it was rather jolty, and the snow had an uncomfortable way of filling up mouth and nose, so that he was nearly suffocated, and thought the end of life was near. But fortunately the end of the route was then reached, and he was able to dig out a passage, for the air to reach his lungs. At the top a boy was near him, carrying his overcoat, at the bottom the boy did not appear, but the overcoat was ready to his hand and most opportune, as the snow had sifted in to his very skin and

a cold wind was blowing. Those sufficiently on top to get out then beg to seek their companions. In one place a hand was seen above the snow, its owner was dug out sufficiently to get air, and left till others were found. In another place it was a foot, which betrayed the where-abouts the owner, and so eighteen of the nineteen passengers found themselves, b one, a load carrier, could not be dicsovered. One man had a shoulder di located, and Mr. McDowell's knee was somewhat injured, and two ribs cracke but all the party managed to get on to the village, now not very far awa but without the baggage to permit a change of the clothing now all fil in with snow. They found a tonier, with a kusie over it, and lay down, i circle, around it, with a carpet over them, to keep in the heat of the fir and so managed to dry off, before morning, when a party was sent out for baggage, which was all found, except the hat, part of it having failed to aboard the train, and so remaining safely at the top. It was almost a acle that but one of such a party was lost. We are all most profoundl grateful to a kind Providence, that our dear brother's most valuable lif was spared, and we gave him a most hearty welcome home.

During the week of prayer, we held meetings every evening, in the chu some three hundred being present from outside the orphanage. Two ~~xxxx~~ evenings we had after-meetings, and hope that some conversions took place tho some came forward from unworthy motives.

The meetings were continu four evenings last week. On Thursday the orphan girls had their Christmas festival, and the boys on Friday evening, while, on Sat. morning, there w a tree, at the church, for the church members and their families and the S.S. children, a little bag of sweets being given to the children, while fo the rest, the people gave to each other. It was a very pleasant occasio

It was nine o'clock, however, before we could start out for the usual Christmas calls, and I was able to get in at only forty one places. We three divided up the district among us, and each went separately, so as t cover as much ground as possible. Our season thus far has been warm, a good deal of snow, and many cloudy days. Wife joins in kindest rega to you all, and I remain

Yours most sincerely

G. C. Raynolds

152

Van, Feb. 18th. 1907.

Dear Dr. Strong, Ans'd by Dr. Strong.

I can only write a line today to let you know that we are in usual health here at present, Mrs. Yarrow having got on nicely since her confinement with a little daughter, 12 days ago. Our new Vali demanded our taxes, we wired to Cons'ple. and our Ambassador wired that we were right in declining to pay, and the Vali had a wire from the Sadrazam that they were considering the question of exempting from taxation educational and benevolent institutions, without having yet reached a decision, but residences and gardens were not included. Whether further demands will be made remains to be seen. Certainly it seems to me that our Government should push this thing to a finish very soon, or else most unfortunate friction will occur in many places. The Vali is pushing the collection of taxes among the people most relentlessly, but there is some hope that he will repress Koordish outrages, while it is not evident what policy he will pursue with the revolutionists. The situation is very delicate.

I hope before very long to be able to prepare annual reports. Have been very busy thus far in getting orphanage accounts into shape.

I inclose a letter for my former cook, now residing in Chelsea, begging you will be so very kind as to post it there, charging me with the postage, since there are things in it which I should be very unwilling to have fall into the hands of the Turkish government, and I do not feel full confidence in a letter sent to his address getting thro.

Wife joins in love to yourself and family and other friends and I am

Yours most sincerely

G. C. Raynolds.

Van. Feb. 8. 07

MAY 17 1907

MAY 7 1907

Van, March 25th. 1907.

Dear Dr. Strong,

The last post brought a delightful letter from your good wife, to Miss Norton, which was read to the circle and did us all good like a medicine. It is so good of her to write such helpful letters.

I write today to ask that you will be so kind as to send to its address the inclosed letter for my former cook, now in Chelsea, as I am specially anxious that it should reach him without being opened, and I do not feel quite sure about letters writen to Armenians getting thro all right.

And so a word about the situation here. Our new Vali has seemed to be quite friendly, and we understand that the Sultan wired him asking about our work, and he returned a favorable answer, which assisted in securing the signing of an Iradé for our premises, tho we have not heard of this from our own people. Since then he seems to have heard some things which have given him the impression that we were harboring and helping revolutionists and this has stirred him up considerably. I hope that his impression has been in a measure corrected. It is however true that we are very much troub led by these same revolutionists, who assume the right to rule over all Armenians, not excepting those in our employ, and they have so intimidated one of our principle workers in the orphanage that he felt obliged to give up his place, tho it is a very great injury to us. They have also insisted on the right to labor to make our boys revolutionists, and once we have found one of them in our premises at night. We intend to be entirely loyal to the Govt. and do all we can to prevent our boys becoming Rs. But this matter has reached the point that there is scarcely any one who dares to oppose them, or even to refuse to uphold them. It seems to be the purpose of the Vali to clean out this element, and if it can be done, without bringing on another massacre, it will be a great blessing to the province. The effect of their work on the religious and moral condition of the community is most disastrous. They openly preach infidelity and and stir up the boys in the schools to disobey their teachers and

parents, and in the lines of theft and murder their influence is most de-
terious. What the outcome of it all is to be, it is very difficult to

Mrs. Raynolds joins in love to yourself and family, including dear
Means, and in very kind regards to all friends, and I remain

Yours most sincerely

G. C. Raynolds.

Ward, 25-4-02

Ans. Sept.

Oh! Ye Oppressed Ones Kick!(Resist, Disobey. Unposdatsek)

The bitter fact has nailed us to our fate,& we try with earnest struggles, to emerge from our narrow position, to a free place, to free air, to inhale a free breath. In these bitter days of our life, when we are gnashing our teeth against the ghost of the Great Murderer,& are spoiled by the policy of his kindred spirit, Ali Beg, our environment begins to be changed about us, the ground beneath our feet begins to tremble & be rent & little by little to swallow us up. It has been the fortune of the oppressed class of mankind to obtain his rights with blood, to protect life with the price of blood. We Armenians are oppressed financially & politically,& our unenviable position compels us to invoke the sympathy of others. We do not at-all consider that these others think more of themselves,& do only that that is profitable for themselves. The oppressing class always leads in politic & the oppressed are dragged behind them. It is time to know & be known.

The new policy of the new Vali has begun to exert its type of influence on the Americo-German orphanage,& under the influence of the new policy, the chamelion has begun to take the same color,& to be enwraped by the same fawning politics,& has become one of the sacrifices to the new policy. These are the daily thought & work of the superintending missionaries, viz. to watch over the orphans, be suspicious lest they become revolutionists, seek the guilty and punish them. Two orphans are expelled & several punished by a diet of dry bread for a week. They have closed the reading room wh. conduces to public mental progress, sacrificing it to their own political ends. Why is this so? We know by experience that the missionaries are seeking rather their own glory than the good of the people, are self-seekers rather than benefactors. The we & our orphans are sometimes benefited by them financially, yet we should know that the European & American contributions are used to advance the political purposes of the missionaries.

Their taking this step in accord with the Vali shows sympathy with a policy whose only condition of success is the advancement of the rich class. When we see the missionaries acting on this line, we must understand their ideal - understand the chamelion. The Armenian common people should know that the orphans, under the Americo-German missionaries' influence are losing their nationality. They must penetrate the foreigners' ideal. Dr. Raynolds is a monster, who showed his real type during the disturbances of 1896,& new missionaries who come here, knowing him as the experienced missionary worker of 30 years in Turkey, place his authority & ideas above every appearance & sign,& he is the authority in every question & decision. So all missionaries who come are to bear his impress. Armenian People! Know your friends & your enemies. Look into the future, the orphans are yours, to be awakened by yourselves - the conscious race, which secures your future So take care to put them in a useful condition. What use to you are the orphans who are rather subject to the Sultan's murderous policy? Those who might move impudent(unpost)& conscious are dying under the influence of the missionaries' hypocritical policy. Orphans! kick back, do not let spirit of rebellion & revenge die within you. Do not forget the blood of your parents & friends,& the thresholds of your ruined homes. Do not disappoint the hope & expectation which an oppressed nation has kept toward you. You have a whole life to live, the orphanage atmosphere is not all to you. You will live as worthy members of the nation & the human race, sympthizing with the oppressed. We caress your disobedient spirit,& encourage you. Long live the rebellion of the oppressed!

Arkos.

MAY 17 1907

Van, March 30th. 1907.

dear Dr. Strong,

I am sending you, by this post, a copy of the station report, which I have just prepared, and I am also sending a copy to the mission Sec. Mr. Andrus, at Mardin, together with the Tabular View, which I suppose he embodies, with those of the other stations, and sends to you together.

I would like to pass along a request from our city church, viz. that if there were some church in America which was getting a new communion set, and was willing to donate the old one for use elsewhere, this church would be very thankful to receive such a gift. Not a very large set is needed. One tankard, two cups and one plate, with a baptismal bowl are quite sufficient, at least for the present, and, of course, no solid silver ware is expected.

The trouble from the revolutionists is increasing. It is possible that I may be able to inclose with this a copy of a translation of a paper they have recently been circulating among our orphans, which will give you a little idea of what methods they are using.

The Vali is considerably put out with Dr. Ussher, because he has heard that revolutionists have been treated in the hospital. Dr. Ussher has considered it his duty to ask whether any one presenting himself was in need of a physician's services, not to inquire who the man was. Doubtless exaggerated reports have been taken to the Vali. Dr. has now promised that if any seriously wounded man is received to the hospital, he will inform the police. The vali expresses perfect confidence in the school, and in the rest of the work, and I hope the hospital matter will soon adjust itself.

With kindest regards from Mrs. R. and myself for all your family and the other friends you may see, I remain

Yours most sincerely

G. C. Raynolds.

PS. I inclose the translation mentioned above. It was posted on the doors of our houses and of the orphanage, so that some of the orphans certainly saw it in that way, and it is probable that it is circulated secretly among them. It and similar papers are circulated among the pupils of the Armenian schools as well. We are fast approaching an absolutely intollerable situation. We are not sure that we can trust the word of that one in a hundred of those about us, and we are not sure that we can rely on the courage of that one to do what is needed to carry on our work. When we can not trust the word of our confidential servants, and employes, and can not be sure that there is a single individual who would stand by us in time of stress, you can see that the position is pretty bad.

Van - Turkey
Dec. 30 - 1907

MAY 20 1907

MAY 20 1907

Van, April 8th. 1907.

Dear Friends,

A word as to the situation here. Last night a big lot of postal matter got thro, but I am not sure whether it was three or four posts. three or four intersessional votes were included, which we have signed and are sending herewith. I hope it may be possible for the Board to arrange about the Bitlis house, and should think it worth the sum mentioned. We are anxious to know what the facts are regarding the earthquake at Bitlis. It was first reported that the city was largely in ruins, many killed, etc. the latest we have heard was that five people were killed and 20 houses thrown down. As no word has come from the circle there, we hope that it is no worse than this, and that no harm came to the premises.

It seems as if the matter of arranging for the principal of the Mardin school was one that the station was quite competent to grapple with alone, while other stations are not in possession of facts to give a decision, save as based on the decision of the station. Is it not a bit of unnecessaryred tape? It is indeed hard to realize that Addison Knapp is old enough to be going to America, and I am sure it will be hard for all concerned, to have him go, but I hope that it will be for his advantage every way. Thanks, Mr. Knapp, for the information about the orphanage work, and it is a comfort to know that we are not the only ones who find the cost of keeping the children rising. I have not yet had time to look over the accounts, but I may be able to send a similar statement of our own expenses before very long.

I am sorry to report the situation here as becoming more and more grave. The new Vali is carrying the oppression thro the collection of taxes, to an extreme that is hardly believable, and at this rate, the people will have absolutely nothing left to support life, much less to pay taxes with. When the Vali came, we hoped that a better day was dawning, and that he intended to administer his office lawfully and impartially, but he seems to be doing neither. I think the consuls have tried to persuade him to change his policy, in vain, and have made representations to their embassies. Of course, such a policy is driving the people to desperation, and in a way, compelling them to side with the revolutionists. The latter continue to be active in various ways, tho a reaction seems to be setting in among the people, against the Tashnagists and their policy. I am told that the Armenists have sent out a paper opposing the Tashnagist policy, and that an effort is being made to turn the popular tide in the other direction, but I do not know how successful it will be. Yeremian, th blind teacher, is having much trouble with his school. He expelled some of the graduating, and other upper classes, for disobedience, incited by the Rs. and he has been commanded by the latter to receive them back, and apologize to them for the wrong done them(!) but I understand he is standing firm. The central Armenian high school is also having much trouble with the spirit of insubordination prevailing among the boys. Thus far we have got along better than the other schools, and no very special insubordination has occurred, but it is evident that our boys are not entirely protected from the prevailing influences. I am sorry to report that Dr. Ussher is getting pretty tired, and is not sleeping well, so that we feel that he needs at least a short vacation. How we could get along without him is not an easy matter to decide. Winter is relaxing its hold on these parts with great difficulty and very slowly. Our plain still has much snow on it, tho it is streaked with black now. With love to all friends, from us both

G. C. Raynolds.

Dr. Strong. Send post inclosed letter, & ch
postage to G.C. Rays

Van, April 5th. 1907.

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matter get thru, but I am not sure whether it was three or four posts.
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MAY 20 1907

Van, April 15th.1907.

Dear Friends,

One small post has arrived since the last week's circular letter was writen, bringing Mr.Cole's circular of Mar 14th.and Mr.Stapleton's favor of Mar.29th.together with the vote regarding Miss Cole's salary, which I am passing on to Hardin. And so, in two weeks, we must think of the Stapleton family as on their way toward the home land. Well, we will wish them a very safe and pleasanr journey, a refreshing visit with home friends, and, in due time, a safe return to the work, which so greatly needs them. In the mean time, we will hope that Dr.Underwood and the ladies will be able to keep the work at Erz.running, that the newly ordained preacher may be able to attend to that part of the work, belonging to the pastor, if as I suppose, he is to be stationed at Erz.and that nothing untoward, in the political conditions may occur. As for Bitlis, I do wish that the new man, so much needed there, were forthcoming, for it will be very hard for the Misses Ely to get on alone there, even in favorable times, and much more so now, in such uncertain days. It would be something of a help if the German friends were to remain there till the new man should get along. It would rather seem as if the government's policy of grinding down the Armenian population by taxes, etc.was not confined to this vilayet, and I hardly see what better result it can bring than the depopuration of the country.

A few words about our own relations with the new Vali and the Govt. As I may have writen, a short time after the arrival od Ali Bey, as Vali, a demand was made for the back taxes on our property here. The question was referred to Cons'ple.and later orders came to him that property held for educational and benevolent purposes was to be exempt from taxation. The Vali has said that various inquiries were sent him from the capital, as to us and our work, and that he returned such favorable answers that an Irade was given acknowledging our establishment, as our Amabssador had asked. The last word from Mr.Peet, gives hope that such may be the case. Soon after, however, exaggerated reports seem to have reached him concerning the use of the hospital by revolutionists. Some time since a man was taken to the hospital, who had been shot, and who, after a few days, died. He refused to give any information concerning himself, beyond calling himself Avedis, when pressed for his surname, giving Shatan-oghloo, and he would not tell where he was from. With regard to his wound, he affirmed that it was accidental, and that he had no complaint to make of any one. Dr.Ussher has not considered it to be his duty to inquire as to the antecedents of those presenting themselves for treatment, but only as to whether they needed treatment, and has not understood that there was any law requiring him to report cases to the police. In some way the above case was brought to the Vali's notice, probably with a good many exaggerations, from those who are hostile to Dr.Ussher, either from jealousy of his professional success, or because of his visit to Nareg, by request of the Vali, at the time of the affair there, some years since. The Vali was very much stirred up, and went to the Eng.Consul about it, claiming that it was an offence which would warrant his arrest, etc. He also expressed the idea that the reading rooms were being misused. So we closed the latter, till he gave orders to reopen it, and Dr.Ussher gave his word to inform the police regarding any such wounded man, who might come to him. Soon however, the nurses in the hospital were summoned, as witnesses regarding that case, and then were imprisoned, and have been kept in prison till now, nearly two weeks. It was rumored to be the intention of the Vali to secure the expulsion from the country of Dr.Ussher but of this we have not proof. Last week, however, he called B.Sahag, and the latter secured his consent to drop the affair, and to release the nurses with a call, given us both. Yours truly G.C. Raynolds.

Ver, April 18th, 1907.

Dear Friends,

One small post has arrived since the last week's circular letter was written, bringing Mr. Cole's circulars of Mar. 14th and Mr. Stapleton's letter of Mar. 29th, together with the vote regarding Miss Cole's salary, which I am passing on to Hazen. And so, in two weeks, we must think of the Stapletons finally as on their way toward the home land. Well, we will wish them a very safe and pleasant journey, a refreshing visit with home friends, and, in due time, a safe return to the work, which so greatly needs them. In the mean time, we will hope that Dr. Underwood and the ladies will be able to keep the work at Fra. running, that the newly ordained preacher may be able to attend to that part of the work, belonging to the pastor, if as I suppose, he is to be stationed at Fra. and that nothing untoward, in the political conditions may occur. As for Bitlis, I do wish that the new men, so much needed there, were forthcoming, for it will be very hard for the Misses Ely to get on alone there, even in favorable times, and much more so now, in uncertain days. It would be something of a help if the Grant friends were to remain there till the new man should get along. It would rather seem as if the government's policy of grinding down the Armenian population by taxes, etc. was not confined to this vilayet, and I hardly see what better result it can bring than the depopulation of the country.

A few words about our own relations with the new Vali and the Govt. I may have written, a short time after the arrival of Ali Bey, as Vali, a request was made for the back taxes on our property here. The question was referred to Cons'ple, and later orders came to him that property held for educational and benevolent purposes was to be exempt from taxation. The Vali has said that various inquiries were sent him from the capital, as to our work, and that he returned such favorable answers that an order was given authorizing our establishment, as our Ambassador had asked. The last word from Mr. Post, gives hope that such may be the case. Later, however, exaggerated reports seem to have reached him concerning the use of the hospital by revolutionists. Some time since a man was taken to the hospital, who had been shot, and who, after a few days, died. He refused to give any information concerning himself, beyond calling himself Avedis, when pressed for his surname, giving Shatan-oghloo, and he would not tell where he was from. With regard to his wound, he affirmed that it was accidental, and that he had no complaint to make of any one. Dr. Usher has not considered it to be his duty to inquire as to the antecedents of those presenting themselves for treatment, but only as to whether they needed treatment, and has not discovered that there was any law requiring him to report cases to the police. In some way the above case was brought to the Vali's notice, probably with a good many exaggerations, from those who are hostile to Dr. Usher, either from jealousy of his professional success, or because of his visit to Harpoot, by request of the Vali, at the time of the first there, some years since. The Vali was very much stirred up, and went to the Eng. Consul about it, claiming that it was an outrage which he warrant his arrest, etc. He also expressed the idea that the roaming nuisance being released. So we closed the letter, till he gave orders to reopen it, and Dr. Usher gave his word to inform the police regarding any such wounded man, who might come to him. Soon however, the nurses in the hospital were summoned, as witnesses regarding that case, and then were interrogated, and have been kept in prison till now, nearly two weeks. It was rumored to be the intention of the Vali to secure the expulsion from the country of Dr. Usher, but of this we have not proof. Last week, however, he called B. Sahag, and the latter secured his consent to drop the affair, and to release the nurses

MAY 31 1907

Van, April 29th. 1907.

Dear Friends,

I seem to be getting back to the old custom of sending out frequent circulars to the stations, tho there is nothing so very important perhaps to report. Our sympathies are much drawn out toward our friends in Bitlis, who were driven into the open, with deep snow on the ground, and temperature below freezing, and we do hope and pray that no serious results to their health may come from it. I trust things have long since quieted down, and the fugitives have been able to return to the protection of their dwellings. I hope that at least the new part of Mr. Cole's house was not rendered untenable, and that no serious damage may have been done to the other buildings belonging to the mission. We are very thankful that the disturbance did not reach so far as Van. Regarding the suggestion from several sources, that Van should try to send some of its members to help out at Bitlis, we have talked the matter over as a station, and it does not seem to us possible to undertake anything in this line, certainly beyond an occasional brief visit. Dr. Ussher is planning to attend the medical convention at Aintab, and could then look in upon them, and Mr. Yarrow would like to visit Bitlis during the summer vacation. For either Mr. Yarrow or myself to be absent from the work here, for any length of time during term time, would do so much harm to the work here, as entirely to neutralize any good that might come to the work at the other end of the lake. To pull down in one place to prevent a pull down in another seems hardly wise. We do hope that Mr Rogers, who has been invited to come to Bitlis, will see his way to accepting, and it would seem that the fact that his sister is coming to Van might influence him favorably in reaching such a decision. As to distributing aid to the poor, which Mr. Cole mentions as a reason for my coming over, it seems to me that Armenians, who know the people and their needs, can do that work better than a stranger would be able to do, especially as there are several reliable men there who can undertake such work.

The situation here does not improve, I am sorry to say. Nothing has happened to us personally since the last circular was sent out, but our sympathies are being constantly drawn out toward the wretched people about us, who are being reduced to the lowest straits. I have just heard that yesterday, Sunday, the day of the week especially used to enter houses, and take away bedding and other household belongings and to cut down trees, these things were carried to a greater extreme than ever, and in a way that brot the Vali into direct conflict with the consuls. It is said that demands for taxes were made last week, on the dragoman of the French consulate, and the consul resisted the demand as irregular and put his kavass on the door. Sunday A.M. a number of soldiers were sent to that quarter and repeated the demands on the dragoman. It is said that the French and Russian consuls with their dragomans, went to the Vali, and were absent from their houses nearly all day. Toward evening, the consuls returned home, and a few minutes later, the two dragomans returned in another carriage. Before quite reaching the consulates, the soldiers stopped their carriage, and dragged out the French dragoman and beat him quite seriously before the consul got word, and when he finally arrived, it is said the soldiers treated him very disrespectfully. This information I have only from Neighbors, and not from the consuls themselves, but it looks as if the Vali were determined to carry things with a high hand, and it will be interesting to see how he will succeed. It would seem hardly probable that France would allow such an affair to pass unnoticed. With love from us both to all, Sincerely

G. C. Raynolds

Van, April 29th, 1907.

Dear Friends,

I seem to be getting back to the old custom of sending out frequent circulars to the stations, and there is nothing so very important perhaps to report. Our sympathies are much drawn out toward our friends in Bitlis who were driven into the open, with deep snow on the ground, and temperatures below freezing, and we do hope and pray that no serious results to their health may come from it. I trust things have long since quieted down, and the fugitives have been able to return to the protection of their dwellings. I hope that at least the new part of Mr. Dole's house was not rendered uninhabitable, and that no serious damage may have been done to the other buildings belonging to the mission. We are very thankful that the disturbance did not go so far as Van. Regarding the suggestion from several sources that Van should try to send some of its members to help out at Bitlis, we have talked the matter over as a station, and it does not seem to us practicable to undertake anything in this line, certainly beyond an occasional visit. Dr. Usher is planning to attend the medical convention at Harput, and then look in upon them, and Mr. Yarrow would like to visit Van during the summer vacation. For either Mr. Yarrow or myself to be away from the work here for any length of time during term time would be a hard to the work here, as entirely to neutralize any good that might come to the work at the other end of the lake. To pull down in one place to prevent a pull downin another seems hardly wise. We do hope that Mr. Yarrow, who has been invited to come to Bitlis, will see his way to accept, and it would seem that the last time the station is coming to Van, might be a favorable time for making such a decision. As to establishing a station here, Mr. Dole mentions as a reason for not coming over, the poor, which he. Dole mentions as a reason for not coming over, it is true that Armenians, who know the people and their needs, can do far more than a stranger would be able to do, especially as there are very few suitable men there who can undertake such work.

The station here does not improve. I am sorry to say. Nothing has occurred to me personally since the last circular was sent out, but our surroundings are constantly drawn out toward the wretched people who are being reduced to the lowest straits. I have just heard that yesterday, the day of the week especially used to enter houses and take by force and other household belongings and to cut down trees, there were assisted to a greater extent than ever, and in a way that brought Van into direct conflict with the consuls. It is said that the Armenians were made last week to the German of the French consulate, and consul resisted the demand as irregular and put his kavass on the door. A.M. a number of soldiers were sent to that quarter and requested the diragoman. It is said that the French and Russian consuls with their dragomans went to the Vali, and were absent from their houses all day. Towards evening the consuls returned home, and a few hours later, the two dragomans returned in another carriage. Before quitting the consulate, the soldiers stopped their carriage, and dragged the French dragoman and beat him quite severely before the consul got out, and when he finally arrived, it is said the soldiers treated him very politely. This information I have only from Neighbors, and the consuls themselves, but it looks as if the Vali were determined to make trouble with a high hand, and it will be interesting to see how the matter is dropped. It would seem hardly probable that France would allow such an insult to pass unnoticed. With love from us both to all, sincerely,

S. C. Allen (signed)

Rec'd June 28, 1907.

JUL 8 - 1907

Van, June 4th. 1907.

My dear Dr. Strong,

Your most welcome letter of Apr. 26th. came to hand a short time since. We are all greatly grieved to learn that you are having such severe trouble with your eyes, and we do hope and pray that, in some way, the Lord will arrange for you to continue your work, which seems so indispensible to the prosperity of the Board, for yet many years. We are very glad that you can have your son associated with you in this work, and so living near you at Auburndale. We are thankful that the Secs. are having such a successful trip, and can but expect that great good will come to the cause in consequence. I hope that even Van may sometime be favored with a secretarial visit, and also that some of the parties of non official friends who are planning to visit different mission stations, will penetrate as far as this. Such a tour might be made in connection with a visit to Persia, which you know is our near neighbor. I wish it might be possible for some Spirit-filled evangelist also to visit these parts, and spend some considerable time in work in central stations and outstations.

While I was in Europe, Dr. Barton wrote to me, proposing that I should spend some time in Russia, on my way back, to get a little idea of conditions there, but the disturbed state of the country did not seem favorable to the carrying out of the suggestion. I have just received a letter from a man now preaching in Rustchuck, Bulgaria, who was one of our first preachers here in Van, having come here from Harpoot. From here he went to Tabriz, and later to Russia, where he labored quite successfully in the Caucassus, and whence, if I am not mistaken, he was banished by the Govt. since which time he has worked in Bulgaria. He now writes that there is a most encouraging opening in his former field of labor, and he understands that he would be permitted now to return there, and says the demand for preachers is very great, and he asks if our Board is sending any workers there, and if so, if it would be possible to send him back to the scene of his former successful labor. His address is Pastor Krekore Kevorkian, Rustchuck, Bulgaria, in case you should wish to address him. He is nearly blind, but is earnest and

spiritual, and might hopefully accomplish a good work there yet.

I am sorry that I can not report any special improvement in conditi here. The interference of the revolutionists in our work is increasing, and in two recent instances they have called and severely threatened tho whom they suspected of having let us know of irregularities which they were calling on our boys to commit, in one instance imprisoning a man all day. Those in charge of the workmen on the premises are also terror ized, with the purpose of securing places for those they wish to introduc

The Govt. too is interposing obstacles to the erection of the new or phanage buildings, for which permits were issued last year, and one of whi was carried up two stories. The new Vali claims that the permit for bu ing the land did not include the permission to erect buildings, tho the f mer Vali had assured us that it did contain such permission, and so issued us the regular permits for building.

The revolutionists seem much stirred up against me, and I presume a publishing all sorts of misstatements regarding me in their papers in A- merica and elsewhere. They publish a sheet here, on a hectograph, which often contains abusive articles against me; and I can not fail to be awa that I am at present, a very unpopular man among the people at large, sin most of them are more or less in sympathy with this movement. Of cour this is not especially agreable, but fortunately the motive which actuat us is not the opinion of men, either favorable or unfavorable.

Mrs. Raynolds joins in very kindest regards to yourself and Mrs. Str and dear Mrs. Means and the other members of your family and the friends the rooms, and I remain

Yours most sincerely

G. C. Raynolds.

P.S. It is along time since I have heard either from the Poughkeepsie which supportrd me, or the Longmeadow Ch. which contributed for the work I do not know whether they are still contributing for these objects or Please inform me if I need to write to them.

JUL 8 - 1907

June 10th.1907.

Dear Dr.Strong,

Some new developments have occurred since the previous sheet was writen,which ought to be reported. Last week we sent a request to the Vali to give a travelling permit to our colporteur,that he might be able to circulate thro the Vilayet,as more strict rules are now being enforced concerning this matter,but the request was refused,and he was told to go to his place and have nothing more to do with us. I called on the Vali about the matter,and was told that he had reason to believe the man was a revolutionary agent,while the truth is that he is the farthest from this. Since my call,I learn that a letter of mine has fallen into the hands of the Vali of Erzroom,which he has had translated and sent copies to our Vali and to the Sultan,and that the Vali is much put out about it. I presume the letter may have been one of the circular letters which I have sent out during the last few weeks,and of which,I think,copies have been sent to you. Of course there were some things in these circulars regarding the conduct of the Vali,in the matter of collecting taxes,which he would naturally not relish. If I had writen these things for publication, or as official complaints to any one,he might call on me to prove my statements,but when they were merely writen as expressions of my views of what was going on here,and in private letters,I do not see that he has any special occasion to find fault,to say nothing of the fact that the Govt.has, as I believe,no right to sieze or open private letters,certainly of foreigners. I of course,regret that anything of this kind should have occurred,and do not know how far I am to blame for writing such letters. My feeling was that you and our associates in the different stations,had a right to know what was going on here. Whether I had better make any effort toplacate his Excellency,or not,I have not yet decided.

Again Yours most sincerely

G. C. Raynolds.

Dear Dr. Strong,

Dr. Ussher is not going to Aintab because the meeting is put off for a year - So Miss Rogers must not come that way - Via Tiflis is better.

Susan R. Norton.

Van, June 10. 97

Van, June 24th. 1907.

Dear Friends,

The situation here continues critical. The events of the week are as follows. First with reference to the revolutionists. There seems to be some sort of a Com. which assumes to supervise the educational interests of Van, but which is supposed not to be officially recognised by the Tashnagist Com. It is said to be composed of irresponsible youths, members of some of the Armenian schools. It is supposed that it was thro them that one of the teachers of an Armenian school was beaten, on the street, one night last winter. This man was afterwards killed, but I do not know by whom. This "Educational Com." sent out a circular addressed to the faculties of the different schools, a copy of which was given to our teachers last week. It set forth that Prof. Somebody had decided that examinations in schools were injurious physically, mentally and morally. So the different schools were advised not to hold examinations this year. In case this advice was not heeded, the case would be referred to "The Active Body." This meant, of course, a threat, and our teachers are somewhat in fear, on account of it. But no change has been made in our program of examinations on this account. What may have been done by the other schools, I do not know.

The next thing to report is more serious. It seems that several of the revolutionists from abroad have had a sort of camp at Upper Varak for some time, and it is said that on Sat. a number of people from the city and villages went up there to engage in rifle practice, and that the Govt. became aware of this fact, and sent troops up there during the night, who arrived by the S. Krekore road, at early dawn, and came very close to them, while they were asleep. As they awaked and found themselves surrounded, a shot was fired which penetrated the head of a ~~Mulazim~~ Melazim, killing him at once. Thereupon the soldiers withdrew, and the Rs. also in opposite directions, horses, clothing, etc. of the Rs. remaining in the hands of the soldiers. The soldiers took up a position and reinforcements were sent, and during the day yesterday the reports of cannon were heard here, but we do not learn that any farther firing was done by the Rs. who seem to have escaped, and the soldiers have returned to the city. I give the above only as the popular reports which reach me, but for which I can not vouch. It is said that one Armenian villager was also killed, and that a naked body, was taken to one of the Armenian churches in the Gardens during the night.

I am sorry to say that our Vali seems to have got the opinion that a woman who lived in one of the houses where arms were found recently, and who had been employed as washer-woman at the hospital, was concealed in the hospital. Dr. Ussher assured him to the contrary and later wrote him a letter of the same import, but the Vali seems not to be convinced, and to be very much put out about the matter.

Mr. McDowell arrived safely from his trip to Bitlis, Mardin and the Botan section of his field, on Thursday last. Our schools are now busy with examinations, and expect to close on Friday next. The health of the station is about as usual.

A feeling of uneasiness prevails in the city. The Lord still reigns.

With kindest regards

Yours most sincerely

G. C. Raynolds

Please acknowledge so I may know if my letters are tampered with.

Van, June 24, 1907

JUL 29 1907 29 1907 Amos Strong 162

Van, July 1st. 1907.

Dear Friends,

The week just passed has been sufficiently full of variety, not all of the pleasantest sort. On Monday night, two hours after midnight, we were awakened by vigorous firing not far away, which proved to have been at a house where the Govt. supposed there were arms, etc. concealed. I do not learn that anything was found, and tho the house was surrounded, no general disturbance followed. Monday passed with more or less fear, but on Tues. a general panic occurred in the city, quite causeless it would seem, but the Vali quickly arrived on the scene, and quieted the people, and tho in some parts of the gardens people fled to the consulates, nothing more occurred. The next morning, Dr. Ussher and I called on the Vali and thanked him for his efficient action, and we talked a little about the letters of mine which had been opened at Erz. and which caused him to be angry with me, and we asked him to be present at our school exhibition, which he promised to do, and on Friday he came and was very cordial and expressed himself as entirely pleased with what he saw and heard. The following day, however, when we sent to inquire if our colporteur might have papers to enable him to travel, the Vali replied that there were so many objectionable things in connection with our establishment, that he could give him no permission to do any thing except to attend to his own agricultural work. Just what this may mean we do not know. Whether he is going to take the ground that we have no right to do anything outside of our own premises, which, of course, he recognises as regularly authorized, or what is to be expected, we can not tell. I would like to inquire to what extent we have the right to demand that our colporteurs be permitted to circulate, and to what extent we can demand for preachers, or teachers, the right to carry on their work in the villages. In the case of the schools, most of them are simply the regular village schools, which the people have a right to carry on, and which are in their name. We furnish teachers, mostly from the graduates of the orphanage, and do a little in the way of helping toward their salaries, sometimes half, seldom more. We exercise considerable supervision over the schools, and in this work the Colporteur has been our assistant. I mention these things so that friends who can give us any advice as to what we had better do about the Vali's position in this matter, can understand the situation.

I have to report that, despite the counter directions mentioned last week, the examinations in the school were held according to program, and no one has been beaten as yet, so far as I know, in consequence. Some effort was made, from a similar source, to prevent women and girls from attending the boys' graduating exercises, because Turks would be present, but the house was nevertheless well filled, with the usual proportion of females.

The graduating exercises of the Girls' School took place on Thursday, in our church, which was comfortably filled, and nine girls, about half from the orphanage, took their diplomas. The boys' graduation occurred on Frid. the Vali and other officials being present, and the house well filled, about 1 000 being present. The usual official reception followed, in the new kindergarten room, which is admirably adapted for such uses. This was followed by the reception for the graduates of the two schools, with an attendance of over 100. The Sunday noon services were especially for the graduates, and so these exercises were concluded, in quiet, and quite satisfactorily, for all of which we are most grateful to the Father above.

I do not know how much the Misses Ely will be able to tell their friend of recent events there, and we do not know very much about it. There seems to have been a rebellion against the Vali, on the part of the Turks, in which he was wounded and sent out of the city, after being imprisoned for a while. Our Ferik with several hundred soldiers went over there, and we understand that Tahir Pasha, our former Vali, recently appointed to Treb. comes there as Mufetish. Matters are reported as quiet, and the rumors of massacre are not confirmed. We are sorry for our associates alone there.

Most sincerely G. C. Raynolds.

Dem. July 1. '07

AUG 1 2 1907

Van, July 16th. 1907.

Dear Friends,

Post day is changed so that I can send a letter by today's post, having returned this morning from a week;s trip to Agants, having left there yesterday morning and reaching here at 7 A.M. today. Last letter reported a warning sent to a preacher, and after I left he had an interview with the Rs and was kept a prisoner several days, and told that the absolute condition of his release was that the man discharged from the hospital be reinstated. The missionaries wrote them a letter assuring them that the preacher had absolutely nothing to do with his discharge, but Dr. Ussher did it on his sole responsibility. Apparently the Rs. got a somewhat better understanding of the situation from talking with the preacher, tho none of the leaders saw him, and he was taken in such a way that he has no idea where he was, nor who communicated with him. There seems to be no doubt that the whole business is largely due to the conduct of some of the disaffected members of our own community, who are taking this method of getting even, as they consider it, with those who failed to elect them to office in the Ch. this year. They seem to have given much untrue information to the Rs. as to individuals, whom they wish to punish, and thus stirred them up to decree their expulsion from our work, and in some instances, from the country. One man is thus compelled to get his passport, and little remained that the preacher be compelled to do the same, and it may come even yet. The Pr. was let go after a few days, tho not as a finality, and things are still in a very critical condition. The Rs. got a mistaken idea that we intended to make an appeal to the Govt. and great excitement prevailed among those familiar with the situation. You can understand the difficulty of our situation. It is very clear that to attempt to secure government protection would be to precipitate a general disturbance, or at the very least, to involve in trouble many innocent parties. As to the Rs. there seems no way of influencing them. They are carrying things with a high hand, the last performance being the shooting, yesterday about 9 A.M. in one of the streets of the city (gardens) the brother of the Armenian Muavine here, who was himself muavine at another outpost. There are many things to give the idea that the Govt. is getting ready for some general action, on the one hand, and on the other, that the Rs. have no intention of letting things go by default on their part. Neither party are friendly to us, so that it is not evident what course they would take toward us, in case of a general disturbance, and it is evident that it is only in the Lord that we can place our confidence. The difficulty of the situation, for us, is greatly increased by the fact of the Govt.s suspicion of our letters, and persistent opening of them. If Mr. Peet thinks best to bring this matter to the notice of the Ambassador, we should be glad for relief, but I wrote about it to Dr. Jewett last week. The British Consul is absent, and I do not know whether he would be permitted to send letters for us in his name or not. If Mr. Peet thinks best to ask the British Ambassador if he could authorize him to do anything of the sort, it might be well. I will not take more time today, but ask you all to help us with your prayers, and accept best wishes from wife and self, and believe me

Yours most sincerely

G. C. Raynolds.

Yazi's assistant.

Van. July 16. 1907

Rec'd Aug. 31

164

Van, Aug. 6th, 1907.

My dear Dr. Strong,

I have not sent out any circular for two or three weeks, partly because we have been so fortunate as to have no special excitement to report, and partly because we do not feel an over measure of confidence that our letters are not tampered with. Two weeks ago, we understand that the outgoing post was kept back for examination, but we feel a fair measure of confidence that our letters were not opened, and that they were sent on the next week, tho many of the native's letters were opened. It is quite possible that the occasion of this action by the Govt. may have been the knowledge that there was considerable revolutionary activity among the Turks, as it is reported here that the Rev. Com. now has several active members from among the Turks, and that they have issued pretty bold circulars, in Turkish, for circulation among officials and others.

I think I reported that our preacher was kept in durance several days, by the Rs., but was finally released, and we do not hear anything more about the case. You will remember that there has been a serious division among the members of our church, a section of which wished to give up a separate church organization, etc. We have reason to believe that some members of this party went so far as to give misleading information to the R. Com. concerning the preacher and some other of our workers, which led them to take the action they did, about him. Whether their ideas have been so corrected that they will not continue their persecution, we can not say.

Our orphan girls are spending the summer, as usual, at an Armenian monastery, and the teachers are experiencing a good deal of annoyance from the Rs. and it is more and more evident that they intend to carry on their propaganda among the children in the orphanage, and apparently they are able to do it despite any precautions we may use. So this is a constant source of annoyance and danger to us. On the other hand the knowledge that the Govt. is suspicious of us, not perhaps wholly without reason, so far as our employés are concerned, tho we do our very best to avoid anything wrong and

that we are always liable to have our letters opened, or destroyed, makes us feel more and more keenly the delicacy of our situation. There seems absolutely no way in which we can insure the inviolability of our personal correspondence

Our circle is considerably scattered at present. Mrs. Raynolds has already been absent ten days on a tour among the villages, a kind of work which is most useful and desirable, but it is questionable to what extent it is really wise for her to use her vacation in such hard work, instead of in securing rest. Perhaps I am in the same boat, as I am staying at home and using a large part of the time in bringing up my orphanage correspondence, and other work, but I try to rest some every day. Mr. Yarrow has gone on a tour to Bitlis, hoping to spend a week or so with the Misses Ely, who are so sadly in need of help and society. The remainder of the circle are taking needed rest at Artemid, running up now and then, for a day. Dr. Ussher is a good deal run down, by his long period of hard work, and I am a bit anxious about him, and as to whether it is safe for him to wait till spring before beginning his vacation.

I think I will inclose a copy of a circular I wrote yesterday, which will give you an idea of the situation as between the Germans and ourselves. I confess to considerable disappointment in the result of the effort at co-operative work with them. This year they have given us Lt 152. for the village work, but we do not know what they will do about this another year.

Hoping that your eye trouble is not advancing rapidly, and that you are keeping well in other directions and securing some rest this summer, and with very kindest regards to the members of your family and to dear Mrs. Means, and to other friends you may see, I remain

Yours most sincerely. G. C. Raynolds.

P.S. The item on P.344, July Herald, is perhaps not quite correct. The Rs. can hardly be said to "Seek to discredit us with the Govt." but rather they determine to carry out their own policy, regardless of its effect in this direction. So in the second paragraph, the word "Insurrection" is possibly a bit too strong. They do incite to insubordination to the rules of the school, etc. and try to train them for future service in their ranks.

Rec'd SEP 19 1907
Ans'd SEP 21 1907

Van Aug.19th.1907.

Dear Friends,

It seems desirable that our friends should know a little what is going on here at present. A few days ago the Vali sent word that he would like to see Herr Shorri and me, but I was not feeling well that day, and only HerrSporri with a translator went. The Vali informed him that he had orders from Constantinople to stop work on the new German Buildings. The next day a letter wassent him saying that until such order came thro the Ambassador he did not see his way to stopping work. The Vali then sent a man to forbid the workmen from continuing their work there not even permitting the finishing his own residence or the wall around the lot. In a subsequent interview in company with the British Vice Consul, the Vali admitted that there was no justice in preventing him from work on his own residence. About half the roof tiles had been laid, and the next day another kilnful was brought. So on Saturday last we took the orphan boys and got the rest in place. We now wait an answer from the German Ambassador as to what to do next.

For the last two or three years the conditions outside have been so bad as to make it impossible for the boys to go out with any prospect of securing a respectable living and so we have allowed a good many large boys to remain in the orphanage in the hope of improvement in conditions. The "Hulfsbund" has continued to send the same per capita allowance which was arranged when prices were low and which then sufficed but now that the cost of grain is 2 time the normal, it does not suffice, but the allowance has not been changed and so a balance of credit in hand 2 years ago has been eaten up and a debt incurred and not even advanced payments made to enable us to lay in provisions for the winter so that at present we have nothing in hand for that.

When the Hulfsbund took over the orphanage work, it planned to erect 5 new buildings and continue permanently some 500 children though it was my opinion that a smaller number would be wiser and anyway I asked them not to take in many new children till their new buildings were completed. But it seemed better to them to aid some 75 small children. Suddenly last spring they changed their policy and decided to keep only some 200, and erect only two buildings and as they already had more than that number they sought to reduce the number. For some months they had been saying they wished only small children and that they be sent out at 15 years of age. We insisted that this was too young and hoped they would change their demand. But recently they sent insisting that those above 15 be sent out. This would mean sending out 75 or 80 and the boys got the idea that this was to be done and got stirred up about it. Outside people sympathized with them and the Revolu-

tionists took told of the matter and we began to see that a very bad spirit was developing among the boys. Last week this became increasingly evident and on Saturday when we wanted them to go to work on the new building, as related above, they declined, but finally the most yielded but several positively refused Yesterday, Sunday, several of them related their grievances in the Church inveighing severely against us and at the time of their usualevening meeting when we explained to them that it had not been our intention to execute those drastic orders at once, they refused to be molified and behaved in a very insolent manner. This A.M. they sent in a paper saying that they should continue and increase their demonstrations till their demands were complied with viz. our decision withdrawn regarding sending out and they permitted to stay till lessons or trade course completed; Herr Shorri be removed from his office; Dr. Ussher to have nothing to do with them; Freedom of thought, speech and conscience granted them! A written answer demanded by noon. We had already invited a number of influential people to meet us to talk over the situation with us. These people however took the part of thebovs more than ours and the best we could do with them was to agree to invite a native Committee to cooperate with us in the government of the orphanage and to wave the immediate execution of the sending out decision, on condition that the boys beg our pardon and promise to be obedient to the rules of the orphanage. At noon thesefriends called the boys and had a long conference which seems not to have been very successful, as during the P.M. the boys closed the work-shops compelling the workmen to leave, and they took possession of the keys but later they yielded sufficiently to write a letter saying they had lost confidence in our fatherly feelings toward them, but that now being reassured on this point, by the friends who had been talking with them, they begged pardon, for their recent conduct and wished to reestablish filial relations with us. We felt that it was better to accept this, grant them pardon and so at least tide over the present crisis.

You may say "What fools you are, why do you let those boys rule over you in this way?" It will be difficult to convey such an idea of the situation here that those outside can appreciate our difficulties. Were it simply a question between us and the boys, the solution would be easy, but it was clear that the boys were out up to do what they were doing and would be supported by those outside. It was probably not the central Committee directly that engineered this affair. They say they will not interfere with the liberty of anyone, and so allow several subordinate Coms to work in such a way that they can disclaim any responsibility if they wish to, but when these coms. get where they need support it may be given. There is an educational com. consisting mostly of school boys, I guess, supposed to superintend educational matters. They forbade examinations last term and

at once of the principla schools, two of the graduating class refused to take the r examinations so were refused diplomas. That school has its graduating exercises at the opening of the fall term and usually on Suday. It was held last Sunday, but three of the graduates were taken off and confined during the day, to break uf the graduation exercises. I presume it is the committee that set our boys on. Had we immediately sent away the boys who refused to work, as would have been perfectly right, or the others who have since been rebellious, they would have refused to go, and had we personally put them out, a general disturbance would probably have been precipitated, which might very likely have brought on a massacre, or general uprising, which might have spread over the whole land. Had we appealed to the police, it would very likely have been still worse. For that matter the Government at present seems to be in a critical condition. It is said that several threatening letters or papers have been issuedand sent to the Vali and that the Turkish population is quite generally against him, while a considerable number of Turkish revolutionists are cooperating with the Armenian Com. For these things I can not vouch. but we felt that we were helpless if the boys really determined to carry out a policy of force, there being no body to which we could appeal for help, without great danger of precipitating general disturbance. We realize that we are nearly helpless and that the boys have learned the fact, and that the future is by no means secure. Also, the financial condition of the orphanage is most unsatisfactory. Probably the Hulfsbund will refuse to send any money for those over 17 and possibly for those over 15 while at the present moment we have not a para to lay in stores with for the future.

It is supposed to be the fact that Moosh has now been put onto the Erzroom vilayet and that Bitlis & Van will be united. It is reported that in Bitlis the people have informed Tahir Pasha that he is not needed and that they can find their own governor at a much cheaper rate than he is sent, but this is only hearsay.

Yours sincerely,

G.C.Raynolds.

Copy - General Letter from
F. C. Raynolds

Van - Turkey Aug - 19 - 1907.

Re - situation at Van.

Rec'd SEP 23 1907

Van, Aug. 26th. 1907.

Dear Friends,

My last week's notes brought down the history to Tuesday morning Aug. 20th. Tues. being post day, we were unable to do anything about constituting the Com. of cooperation, and the boys were not wholly quiet, especially as we happened to speak to one or two about plans already arranged for their securing work outside, and both the boys and our outside friends considered that we were not living up to our agreement, and considerable feeling was developed. Wed. morning we determined whom we would invite, and had an interview with them, but owing to the fact that some of our friends were on the point of leaving for other parts, while Dr. Oksen, who has just graduated from Beirut Medical Coll, and B. Rushdonian, from Marsovan Coll. were arriving the full organization and first regular meeting did not take place till Sat. morning. The previous day, several of the boys from here had gone to Vosgé pag and had beaten some of the boys there and locked the teacher in charge into his room for a while, because they were not subservient to their wishes. The perpetrators of this outrage were called before our Com. on Sat. and given to understand that their conduct would be taken cognizance of, and the question was submitted to the boys in general, Whether they would promise to be absolutely obedient to the decisions of this Com. and they were given till Mond. morning to consider their answer. Sunday passed quietly, tho but few of the boys here attended both of the church services, and this morning they indicated that they would accept the decisions of this Com. and obey its orders. We hope that the worst of the present difficulty is past, and that matters will quiet down, and we be able to arrange for the going out of some, at least of the large boys, and to find places for some of them, either in our own workshops, or outside.

Whether in treating this most difficult question, we have erred on the side of exercising too much caution and forbearance with the boys is a question regarding which there is, of course, room for a difference of opinion. I can only say that we have sought to do the right thing, and the pressure of responsibility has been very severe, and I fear that, were it to continue much longer, I at least, should break down under it. I hope that the worst may be over, but do not feel too sanguine on the subject. Nearly the whole of the Van community, Protestent and Gregorian, blame the missionaries, and the boys, knowing this, are encouraged in their rebellion. We tell the people, "Whatever you may consider the faults of the missionaries or of the German Soc. in the past, the present fact is that we have no funds by which we can keep these boys, now instead of tying our hands and making it impossible for us to plan the best possible solution, under the circumstances, by encouraging the boys in their insubordination, turn to and help us to bring the boys to such an attitude that we can consider for each what it is best to do in his particular case, and so bring about the best practicable solution." I hope that, little by little, such a spirit may gain momentum among the community. There are some of the boys who are anxious to get away, either crossing the border into Russia, or securing passports for Europe, and while either step is attended with difficulties, it might be possible for some, at least, were it not that the revolutionists are absolutely preventing those who would attempt it.

Hoping that another week may bring better news, and with very kindest regards to all friends, from wife and self, I remain

Yours most sincerely

G. C. Raynolds

Rec'd SEP 23 1907

Van, Alb. 20th.1907.

Dear,

My last week's notes brought down the history to Tuesday morning.

These boiler post day, we were unable to do anything about commencing the Com.of cooperation,and the boys were not wholly quiet,apparently we happened to speak to one or two about plans already arranged for their separate work outside,and both the boys and our outside friends considered that we were not living up to our agreement,and considerable feeling was developed. Wed.morning we determined upon we would try,and had an interview with them,but owing to the fact that some of our friends were in the point of leaving for other parts,while Dr.Osgar,who has been crippled from Potato Digging Cart,and B.Bradbourn,from Carnovan Cart,were arriving,the full organization and first regular meeting did not take place till Sat.morning. The previous day,several of the boys from Cart had come to Vegas pay and had beaten some of the boys there and locked them up in cellars in the Com.room for a while,because they were not satisfied to their wishes. The perpetrators of this outrage were called before our Com.on Sat.and given to understand that their conduct would be taken cognizance of,and the question was submitted to the boys to consider whether they would provide to be absolutely obedient to the decisions of the Com.and they were given till Mond.morning to consider their answer. Monday passed quietly,the but few of the boys here attended both of the church services,and this morning they indicated that they would accept the decisions of this Com.and obey its orders. We hope that the worst of the difficulty is past,and that matters will quiet down,and we be able to arrange for the moving out of some,at least of the large boys,and to find places for some of them,either in our own workshops,or outside.

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Hoping that another week may bring better news,and with very kindest wishes to all friends,from wife and self,I remain

Yours most sincerely

Rec'd SEP 23 1907

Van, Aug. 27th. 1907.

My dear Dr. Strong,

I inclose the weekly circular to tell you how we prosper, and I am too busy to do much more today. It occurs to me however that the time id approaching for the return of dear Dr. Barton, and I must send just a word of welcome for him, when he does arrive, and tell him how thankful we are that he has been permitted to make such a tour, and to bring so much of cheer and help to so many of our brethren and sisters, in different fields.

I would also most heartily thank you for all the kind sympathy we have enjoyed from you during his absence, and it has been a very great pleasure to be thus permitted to correspond with you personally. We are all also delighted to hear the good letters which dear Mrs. Strong sends so faithfully, and to dear Mrs. Means for the loving sympathy which breathes thro all the letters which come from her.

We are in deep waters at prresent, one of the hardest things being the criticism and fault-finding of almost all the Armenians about us. It sometimes seems as if not a friend were left us among the people, but we are thus thrown more entirely onto the unshaken friendship of Him Who knows us and all our circumstances entirely, and is able and willing to help.

Hastily but with best love for all the dear friends,

Yours most sincerely

G. C. Raynolds.

Fax-Turkey- Aug. 27-1907.

Rec'd OCT 31 1907

Dear Longmeadow Friends

Van, Sept. 2, 1907.

It is a very long time since I have heard from any of you directly, and I do not even know for certain whether you are continuing to send your contributions to the Board for our work, but I saw in the Republican that Miss Rogers has been with you, and the paragraph seemed to imply that you were retaining your interest in our work, and so it seems as if I ought to let you know a little of how we are getting on here. I have just written a letter to the Poughkeepsie Church, which supports me, and perhaps I can not do better than to copy it for you.

The place and the work are passing thru a serious crisis, in which we greatly need the prayers and sympathy of our friends. The political situation is verypeculiar, an exceedingly strong revolutionary movement being now in progress here. More, or less activity, in this direction has been going on for several years, and thus far, in my opinion, has wrought only harm for the Armenian people. It has been the occasion, if not the cause of the massacres and outrages of the last dozen years, by means of which the Armenian population has been reduced one half, probably, while scarcely a quarter of the pecuniary ability existing fifteen years ago remains. During the last few years this influence has become so strong that scarcely anyone dares to stand out against it. Its leaders have assumed control of the Armenian people, settling their disputes and various questions, without allowing them to come to the officials, summarily imprisoning, beating and killing according to their own ideas. Several such assassinatios of prominent persons have occurred. They assume to control schools, and to interfere in church and other affairs of the people, making no exception of our church, educational and orphanage work. By terrorizing or cajoling they compel our teachers to do their pleasure, or withdraw from our work. They have succeeded in infusing a spirit of absolute insubordination among the boys in the orphanage, which reached the point, a few weeks since, of inaugurating an open rebellion on their part. We deemed it prudent to ex-

ercise the extreme of patience with the affair, lest outside revolutionary parties should so mix in as to precipitate a general uprising, or even massacre. The acute stage passed in a few days, but the spirit of insubordination has not been eliminated, tho quite a number of the large boys, who were the leading spirits in the movement, have left us with the purpose of going to some other country. The reason why there were so many large boys remaining in the orphanage, to give rise to such trouble is that economic conditions here, at present, are so extremely bad that it is simply impossible for boys going out to find the means of earning a livelihood, and for the same reason, were we now to expel our "Undesirable Citizens", it would simply be to turn them adrift in the neighborhood, with no employment, so as to make more trouble than if under at least partial control, inside the institution. The only practicable solution seems to be for them to leave the country, but the difficulty of doing this is extreme, even if we could find the money needed for it. The Govt. will give no passports for Russia or Persia, the countries near enough to be easily reached, and only with difficulty to Europe. Moreover the revolutionists have put an embargo on leaving the province, and between the two it is very difficult for anyone to get away. The border is so closely watched by the Govt. the revolutionists and the marauding Koords, that those who attempt to cross take their lives in their hands. Some of our boys have been turned back, while one party, among whom are several of the leaders in the rebellion, has not yet been heard from, as to whether it has actually passed or not. So you see that the orphanage work brings us much of anxiety and trouble.

But this is not the only place in which a crisis is evident. Two or three years ago, a movement began among some of our church members, who claim that it would be better for the Protestant church, as a separate organization, to be given up, arguing that in this way opportunities for direct labor within the bounds of the Gregorian Church could be obtained. While it is the desire and hope of all Protestant workers, that the day may come when

the Gregorian Church shall be so far purified that there shall be no farther occasion for a separate Protestant organization, yet we feel very strongly that that day has not arrived, but rather is far away, and only the continued influence of the Protestant church can bring it about. We feel that this movement is a wile of the adversary, and we are glad to say that the majority of the church members agree with us in this view. Still it can not be denied that much harm has come to the work from this cause. It is to be said that there is a vital connection between this movement and the revolutionary one, each using the other as a tool to carry out its purposes, and we believe both to be working against the best interests of the Redeemer's Kingdom. It is proper to say in this connection, that the revolutionists labor openly and earnestly to inculcate infidal and atheistic notions, to weaken confidence in the Bible and religion generally, and it is especially for this cause that they are so opposed to our work.

In consequence of these adverse influences, the attendance at our church has decreased somewhat, and a rather general sentiment of hostility to us personally and to our work prevails among the people. You can readily see that such a condition of affairs is very trying, and makes us feel in a very special manner, our need for the prayers of our friends at home.

But let me not leave the impression that, even now, everything is discouraging. We are glad to see that there is a considerable number among our church members, whose spirituality and zeal have been quickened by the experiences thru which we have been passing. Perhaps the one who has been most deeply affected by these trials is our preacher. He is a Van man who has spent several years in America and graduated from the University of Southern California, at Los Angeles, and returned to his native town some three years ago. He worked earnestly and showed more than average spirituality, and did a specially fine work among young men. But the party which sought the closing of the church, and the revolutionists were both opposed to him, and this summer the latter imprisoned him for a few days, and so

wrought upon his fears, that he became greatly discouraged and depressed, and reached the point where he wanted to resign his place and run away. But some of the more active of the church members, with the preacher of the city church, labored with him, and I think he has got his grip again, and is gaining his spiritual power. I am glad to say that the city church has not been greatly affected by this turmoil, and its preacher is standing firm and is a real tower of strngth.

The work in the villages is on the whole, encouraging, tho the revolutionists are trying to get control of these schools, and inculcate their infidel and socialistic ideas. But we still have work in a pretty large number of villages, and feel that evangelical Christianity is gaining ground among them. The work of our teachers and preachers seems to be pretty well appreciated, as shown by the strong efforts of the villagers to secure the services of our teachers, and despite their desperate poverty, they are contributing fairly well toward the support of the schools.

You will think this a rather discouraging letter, but I hope its effect will not be to diminish your interest in the work. I believe a better day will dawn, and that it is our place to stand by the stuff, even when the outlook is dark, keeping bright our faith in Him Who is able, in an hour, to change the whole situation; so I hope that this letter will encourage you to increase your prayers for us, and your contributions for the glorious work in which the Board is engaged.

It would be pleasant to hear occasionally from the friends in my native town, and Mrs. Raynolds joins with me in very kindest greetings to all there who may remember us. We would especially thank Miss Golathwait for her good letter of Aug. 3rd. and we are very glad that we are to have another representative of Longmeadow in this mission, and we have asked to have Dr. and Mrs. Ward come to Van for a while, learn the language and take Dr. User's place while they are away on their vacation, next year. The doll which is promised will also receive a warm welcome when she arrives.

Believe me Yours ever most sincerely G. C. Raynolds.

On the whole, I think I will address this to Miss Golathwait, as I am not sure just who would be there to receive it.

Rec'd OCT 31 1907

Van, Oct. 1st. 1907.

My dear Dr. Barton,

I think you certainly must be home by this time, and I want to send you a word of special greeting and welcome, tho I have already asked Dr. Strong to give you welcome. I understand that there is a letter from you to the mission, on its way from Mardin, which we shall doubtless see in due time. We have followed your wanderings with great interst, so far as the letters and accounts have kept us informed of them, and I am sure your visits must have given much of inspiration and cheer to the workers in the different places which you visited. The journey must have been exceedingly fatiguing for you, but I hope that the Lord has given you strength for it all, and that you will have an opportunity for some rest before the heavy duties of the rooms are undertaken. The annual meeting will soon be upon you, and will, of course, bring much of hard work, but also, I trust, much of cheer and encouragement. We do hope and pray that the apprehensions of debt may be averted, and the Board be able to begin its new year free from that handicap. Far more than this, we hope that there may be a possibility of extending and strengthening the work during the coming year, as only increased funds can make it possible to do.

I have just been writing to Poughkeepsie and Longmeadow, as the places where our special support is supposed to come from, and think it may perhaps be well to inclose you a copy of the letter, to give you a little idea of the situation in which we now find ourselves, and which you may not get time to dig out from previous letters which have come in your absence.

But I will not take more of your precious time. Mrs. Raynolds joins in a warm welcome to yourself and in an Achkut luis, for both yourself and fam'l., and I remain

Yours most sincerely

G. C. Raynolds.

L. C. Raynolds

Van Turkey Oct. 1 - 1907.

Thanks for your most kind and welcome letter awaiting my return. Again a most hearty welcome home, and we all must be thankful for all you have been able to accomplish. No time for a personal letter today.

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Urmi, Nov. 11th. 1907.

DEC 20 1907

Dear Friends,

It is several weeks since I have sent out a circular letter, owing to my absence, and on my return I find several kind letters, from different places, expressing a kind interest in our work, and sympathy with us in the difficulties which beset it, for all of which I am most grateful.

Three weeks ago last Wed. I started out for a short visit to Bitlis, reaching that place on Sat. after a pleasant and restful trip, and I spent ten days with the hospitable friends there, securing for myself the first real rest since my return from Europe. I found the Misses Ely pretty comfortable, Miss Charlotte being pretty well recovered from the effects of her fall during the earth-quake disturbances, and able to walk well on a level, but requiring help for going up stairs. They are still sleeping in their board room, in the garden, occasional slight reminders of seismic disturbance still continuing, and have been using a room on the ground floor of the house for dining room, but while I was there, they more generally eat up stairs. It was sadly interesting to hear their graphic accounts of the experiences of the past winter, and the heroism with which they have been enabled to pass thro the ordeal, and which keeps them firmly at their lonely post, is beyond all praise. But it does seem a burning shame that no one can be found to come to their assistance, and reinforce this station, which has so much of interesting history behind it, and despite adverse circumstances, so hopeful an outlook before it. The prospect for a lonely winter, snowbound in that Koordish outpost, is enough to appall many a masculine heart, but they accept it with wonderful equanimity, tho they would be most thankful for the needed associates. May the Lord speedily send them!

I returned via the north side of the lake, for the purpose of visiting our outstation, Agants, leaving Bitlis Tuesday, Oct. 29th. and the first three days were delightful for travelling, but on Friday morning rain set in, and continued almost constantly for a full week. Owing to the rain and deep mud and a weak baggagehorse, the 20 hours from Agants here were made, with extreme difficulty, in three days. It was delightful to be at home once more, especially as the last three hours were made in a heavy snow storm. The snow still continues, with the mercury at 10° above zero every morning.

I am glad to report that I found a new member of the station, on my arrival, viz. Miss Rogers, who had reached here 8 days before me. She came from Cons'ple. in the company of Mr. Wigram and a new associate, of the Eng. mission to the Nestorians, the Bishop of Gibralta being with the party. They came via Tiflis, and we sent men and animals to meet them at the frontier, and Mr. Yarrow went out 45 miles to meet her, with a cart, hoping to bring her more comfortably this last stage, and the caravan was allowed to come on ahead of them, but just as they started out, the axle of the cart broke, and they were obliged to get home as best they could, on the two horses, with but one saddle, and little or no bedding for the night they were thus obliged to pass on the road. On Thursday morning the <u>furgon</u> was sent out to bring in the broken cart, expecting that it would be back on Sat. but owing to the severe storm above reported, it did not arrive till the following Sat. tho I found it at the village where I spent the last night, on my own return, the mud making the roads almost impassable.

Not very much of political interest has occurred here during my absence. One night, at a near village, a considerable skirmish occurred between Tashnagist and Armenist bands, in which one of the latter was killed and several wounded. The Govt. seems to have taken no notice of the affair.

I am glad to report that some improvement seems to be evident in the relations of the two factions in our church, those who had demanded the giving up of the separate Church organization having considerably modified their position, but our Sunday audiences, as yet, continue quite small, but we begin to have some hope that the tide has turned, and that better times await us. The untimely setting in of winter is adding immensely to the present and prospective suffering among the people, many even of the better class are almost without fuel and with but little grain.

With hearty greetings to all friends, Yours most sincerely

G. C. Raynolds

Van Turkey Nov. 11 - 1907.

Rec'd DEC 20 1907

Van, Nov. 18th. 1907.

My dear Dr. Barton,

Your favor of Sep. 20th. is received, and I do most highly appreciate your kind thoughtfulness in writing me so promptly after reaching home, and when so very many things were pressing, and I beg you to accept most hearty thanks therefor, as well as for your efforts to improve our relations with the Hulfsbund. It seems to be becoming more and more evident that we can not hope to do very much cooperating with them. They have already ignored the gassel agreement, so far as the orphanage is concerned, and just as soon as they can get into their new buildings, it is clear that it will be best for them to carry on their orphanage work quite independently. As to evangelistic work, I do not know what course can be taken. Last year they sent us Lt 150. for the village school work, and we are going on with that work, in the hope that a similar grant may be made for this year. It does not seem very easy to divide our field with them, as there is no extensive, outlying district which can well be assigned to them. The funds granted by the Board at present, do not suffice to run the schools and the church work in Van, and it is the outside, Village work which they are now helping about. It would not be desirable to shut ourselves off entirely from this outside work, and confine ourselves to Van city, but the Board's appropriations, as stated above, do not suffice for any outside work.

To what extent and how permanently it will be worth while for us to continue a distinct American orphanage is something to be carefully considered. At present the pressure from the revolutionists is such that we seem unable to run our own institutions ourselves, and if this interference is to continue, it seriously affects the question of having boarding pupils of any kind on our premises. We hope for improvement in these lines, but no light appears as yet.

At present, our most pressing anxiety is how we are to provide for the children we have for the coming year. Economic conditions here are fast approaching the famine status. Wheat that used to cost about 20 Ps. per

chon, is now almost impossible to get at 85 to 90 Ps. and other articles of food almost in the same proportion, while clothing material has gone up in only a little less proportion. Even under these circumstances, the Hulfsbund declines to send us advance appropriations, to enable us to lay in our stores, in atall the measure needed, and the outlook even for the orphans is dark. They did not, I am happy to say, compel us to send out at once all over 15 years of age, and we are doing our best to work off the large boys, and have succeeded, with great difficulty, in getting off about twenty, but there are still a good many large boys, belonging to the Germans, left in our hands, i.e. boarded in the American orphanage, and now under our control, so far as German interference goes, but we can not say the same as to the revolutionists. I hope we shall be able to get off another contingent in the spring, if we can manage to care for them till then.

We are anxious to know the result of the Cleveland meeting, as a whole and especially of the dear Board. We are most thankful to see that the Board has received $ 100 000. from Mr. James' estate, and wonder if it got in in time to prevent reporting a debt at Cleveland.

I am happy to report that I have been able to make a visit to Bitlis. I left here Oct. 16th. spent ten days there, and returned via the north shore of the lake. The weather was favorable until I was within one day's journey of Agants, when a heavy rain set in, and continued almost constantly for a week, so that the journey from that point was a very hard one, and I was very thankful to reach home, in a heavy snow storm, after which the temperature went down to 10° F. every night for nearly a week, ruining many things in the gardens, which are not usually gathered so soon as that, and thus seriously increasing the prevailing distress.

Yesterday we changed the hour of our preaching service so as to permit attendance at one of the Armenian churches, where commemorative services for the late Catholicos were being held. Next Sunday we plan such services at our own church. You know that he was a Van man, and he was greatly beloved here.

Let me say a few words about matters at Bitlis. I found Miss Charlotte pretty well recovered from the very serious accident ,which she met with last winter,so that she is able to walk comfortably on a level,and to get up and down stairs with help. They still sleep in a board room they have made in their garden,as a safeguard from earthquakes,some slight evidences of seismic disturbance being still occasionally noticed. They are both keeping up wonderful courage,but it is a situation that ought not to be permitted to continue. The work now coming upon them alone would be very heavy,if shared with an experienced male missionary,and it is impossible that they should keep all the threads in place. The treasury especially can not possibly be kept up in good shape,the Miss Mary keeps a careful record of receipts and outgoes. But the worst of it all is the leaving of those two elderly ladies all alone,during the long,hard winter, in such a place as Bitlis,isolated from all communication with associates, in such a wild Koordish city,and with so many possibilities of disturbance all about them. It is really cruel. A man of experience seems essential for that place,but even a young man would be very much better than nothing I know that you are putting forth every effort to find the man for them, and I do hope that the Lord will put it into the heart of some good man to undertake this difficult work. Economic conditions there are almost as bad as in Van,and this will seriously increase the strain upon them during the winter. It is true that in some respects the field seems discouraging,instead of inviting for a young man beginning a life work. Emigration has largely depleted the Protestant community,and the work is still going on,and the Armenian population is also working in the same line,but there is still,and seems likely to remain,a pretty large Armenian population for whom a young man might well devote his best energies,while it is proper to expect that the day for work among the Moslems may not be far distant,and then there will be a splendid field there to cultivate.

Mrs.Raynolds joins in heartiest greetings to yourself and family,to Dr.Strong and the other friends at the rooms,and their families,and I am

Yours most sincerely

G. C. Raynolds.

Copy for Sub. Com.

2/2

P.S. Later, I have just been talking with Mr.Yarrow on the subject of his own financial condition. He is very much troubled by the fact of his being in debt,and finding it impossible to get square,but rather that this indebtedness is increasing. Now it is a fact that for the last two years prices of provisions,and for that matter of almost everything,have been going up fearfully. This I mentioned in the earlier part of this letter. The Yarrows came out with everything to provide now,and the outfit was not sufficient to furnish the house,buy a horse,etc. Were prices at their normal figure,it would be possible for them to economize and make up the deficit,but with these really famine prices it is simply impossible.

An intersessional vote was started some time since asking that the basic salary be increased Lt 25.I think it was,or to Lt 175.and the percent for children be also increased. We have not heard from this vote, and do not know what fate it met with in the mission. We learned that some members of the mission voted nay on the Erzroom proposition,but we think that ours was so moderate that it would meet with general approval in the mission,and I sincerely hope that the Prud.Com.will be willing and able to grant the request. My own personal opinion also is that the present debt of those members of the station who have run behind,should be cancelled,and they enabled to start in on the new basis with a clean sheet. So far as we can learn,the cost of living here is greater than at Trebizond,even for the articles of home production,like grain,fuel,etc.while for all articles brought from abroad,there is the very heavy freight charge in addition to what is paid at Treb. I can but hope that this matter will receive prompt attention at the rooms,and that you will deal leniently with those members of our station who will be obliged to report a debt at the close of this year.

Copy last sheet

Sub-Com

Rec'd DEC 30 1907

16

Van, Nov. 25th. 1907.

My dear Dr. Barton,

Last post brought a letter from my sister, Mrs. Calhoun, from Natal, telling of the delightful visit they had enjoyed from Mr. and Mrs. Capen, and telling of their plan to return from the farther East, via the Siberian R.R. to Moscow and thence down thru Russia, visiting as many as possible of the mission stations of Asiatic Turkey, but saying that Van would be too far off their route for them to visit it. It is this information which has prompted me to write this inclosed letter, and as I do not know their address, it seemed the best way to send it via the rooms, and so if you will be so very kind as to forward it to them, we will be much obliged.

I inclose a circular letter which will give an idea of the present situation. That the conditions are exceedingly critical and very difficult, is evident, and how we shall come out remains to be seen. We feel that we must win out now, or shut up shop. We would not be averse to doing the latter, so far as the orphanage is concerned, but we do not see what is to become of the boys, under those circumstances. We feel as perhaps never before, our utter dependence on the Lord's strength and wisdom.

With kindest regards from us both to yourself and family and other friends, I remain

Yours most sincerely

G. C. Raynolds.

Van-Turkey. Nov. 25-1907.

Rec'd DEC 30 1907

Van, Nov. 25th. 1907.

Dear Friends,

The news of the death of the Catholicos, Hairig as his fellow citizens of Van have long delighted to call him, brought sorrow to us in common with the whole Armenian people and their friends, and we planned to hold a memorial service for him, but when we invited the Arachnort to take part in it, he replied that they were to have a special service on that Sunday, and asked us to join with them at that time and postpone our service till the following Sunday. So yesterday we gave up our usual noon preaching service to this object, and the church was crowded to its utmost capacity, while large numbers were unable to get in. The Arachnort and Der Mesrope took part in the service, sitting with us in the pulpit, and I think the influence of the service, both in itself and in its securing the sympathy of the people, was good.

I am sorry to be obliged to report trouble again in the orphanage. Since the rebellion of last summer, tho tolerable quiet has reigned, yet the situation has been by no means satisfactory. There has been always manifest an under current of insubordination, occasional acts of direct disobedience, and a subservience to outside influences, which has seriously interfered with the discipline of the institution and with the profit the pupil should receive, so that we have felt the situation to be a nearly intolerable one. The Armenian members of our committee, the three teachers who have been at Marsoven, have worked with us pretty satisfactorily, and in doing so have incurred more or less enmity from the boys, and from outsiders. This feeling called forth the issuance of a paper and its circulation, calling them all sorts of hard names, accusing them of hypocrisy, etc. Whether, in view of all the circumstances, they will feel that it is possible for them to continue their work is not yet clear. No one outside can wholly understand the gravity of the situation here, as concerns our relations with the revolutionists. It is as impossible to ignore them as to ignore the presence of malaria, their influence is every where present in all that in any way concerns the Armenian people. We endeavor to avoid such communication with them as would involve unfaithfulness in our duties toward the government, and do not in any way recognise their right to interfere in the affairs of our institutions, but we do sometimes endeavor, directly, or indirectly to induce them to modify their action.

Last week the Com. saw reason to examine the boxes of those boys who had boxes in their possession, and this stirred up a spirit of rebellion among the boys, which led some of them to directly refuse to do what they were told to do, and for such direct disobedience, one boy was expelled, but he refused to accept the decision, and the other boys upheld him in his position, but he finally went expecting that in a few days, by asking pardon, he might be received back. This morning he sent in a somewhat unsatisfactory acknowledgement of wrong and request for pardon, but when we demanded a promise to obey us missionaries as the heads of the orphanage, he did not accept it.

Tuesday morning. The Armenian members of the Com. gave in their resignation yesterday, and there seemed nothing to do but accept it, and in the XXXX

Tan-Turkey Nov-25-1907.

Rec'd JAN 13 1908

Van, Dec.14th.1907.

Dear Friends,

Two posts have gone without taking any circular from me, no serious trouble having occurred during this time. My last circular reported the resignation of the Armenian members of the Orphanage Com. and our assuming the sole responsibility for its government. We prepared a simple pledge for the boys to sign, recognising us as the superintendents of the institution, and promising to be obedient to us and to the rules of the orphanage. Apparently the revolutionists objected to this, and on our Thanksgiving evening, three of our people asked for an interview, saying that a considerable company of our own people, teachers, and others, had come together to talk over the situation, and they begged that we would postpone the demand for signatures to this pledge, they promising to see the Rs. and try to persuade them to desist from their interference with the management of the orphanage. After considerable discussion, and very reluctantly, the station finally voted to accept their offer. The next day we received back the boy who had been expelled, after he had asked pardon, and promised obedience. Since then we learn that the Rs. say, as often before, that the Com. is not officially interfering, beyond appointing a certain individual to act as a sort of teacher for the boys, to instruct them in their duties, as they see them! The person who has held this office is a former graduate of our school, whom we have repeatedly forbidden to come on our premises, and who has constantly stirred up the boys to disobedience and has repeatedly published the most outrageous abuse of us missionaries and of our employes. Recognising that we had some right to complain of this man's actions, they have removed him from that office, but I suppose have appointed someone else, I do not know who, to give this instruction! How opportunities for this are to be secured I do not know, but as we do not have a Chinese wall about our premises, and as no watchman dares to prevent what the Rs. may choose to order, I have little doubt that if we are able to prevent the boys having intercourse with outsiders during the day, they will accomplish it at night. For the last two weeks the boys have behaved very well, to all appearance, not manifesting that hatred and bitterness which has been evident at some times.

Two of the teachers who served for a while on the Orphanage Com, with us, trying to help us to secure good order in the institution, have so incurred the hostility of the Rs. as to be denounced and abused in their publications, and so threatened that they feel it is not safe for them to attempt to take any part in the government of the orphanage, and they even feel some doubt as to the safety of continuing their connection with the school, which is distinct from the orphanage. That any Armenian should sympathize with the missionaries and attempt to help them in their work is enough to place him in the R. black list and render his position extremely uncomfortable, if not actually dangerous. This intolerable interference is, if possible, even more marked among our teachers in the villages.

You can readily understand that, under such circumstances, our position is a very difficult one, and no one can tell whereunto it will grow. At present there are no indications of active collision between the Govt. and the Rs. but it would seem hardly possible that affairs should continue permanently in this condition. From what I hear, I judge that matters in Erz. are quite as delicate as here. We can but believe that the Lord will bring about improvement ere long, and that He wishes us to hold on here, and wait His time for improvement. Clearly, only the Lord can work out the problem, and it is only by prayer that our friends can help us.

Yours most sincerely, with best wishes for the holiday time and the new year so soon to open, from Mrs. Raynolds and myself.

G. C. Raynolds.

Van - Turkey - Dec. 14 - 1907

JAN 18 1908

Van, Dec.14th.1907.

My dear Dr.Barton,

Last post brought your very kind letter of Nov.7th.with its inclosure, for which I most heartily thank you. We all of us greatly enjoyed the general letter, and it is exceedingly cheering to receive such cordial greetings and assurances from those at the centre. I hope that we may all work worthily of the great trust imposed upon us.

Our Mission Sec.reports that our intersessional vote regarding the question of our salaries was sent on with no dissenting votes, and I can but hope that the Prudential Committee will see its way to grant the request, beginning at latest from Jan.next. Should prices ever return to the old figures, it is possible we might be able to get along on the old sum, tho the members of the station generally have found difficulty before this. But with prices of nearly all food stuffs four and five times the normal, fuel say a quarter higher than usual, and clothing somewhat above old prices, it is clearly impossible to live on the old income, whether for ourselves or for the orphanage, and I am sorry to say that the semiannual will show us all in debt. Of course, all our employes have the same difficulty, and salaries necessarily have to rise, even aside from the fact that we are getting a higher grade of workers, Marsovan graduates.

We shall be sending you a statement regarding the attitude of our German friends towards the general work of this station, and I do most earnestly hope that the income of the Board for the coming year may permit of appropriations somewhat more adequate for the conduct of the work, tho with the great openings in the farther east, and the discouraging conditions in this nearer east, I fear we shall not stand a very good chance, even then.

The accompanying circular will give you an idea of the present situation here. I have writen pretty plainly in the hope that letters will not be tampered with, and I want friends to know our true situation.

With best wishes for the new year from us both, for all friends,

Yours most sincerely

G. C. Raynolds.

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JAN 18 1908

Van, Dec. 14th. 1907.

My dear Dr. Barton,

Last post brought your very kind letter of Nov. 7th. with the enclosure, for which I most heartily thank you. We all of us greatly enjoyed the general letter, and it is exceedingly cheering to receive such personal greetings and assurances from those at the centre. I hope that we may all work worthily of the great trust imposed upon us.

Our Mission Sec. reports that our increased vote regarding the salaries of our salaries was sent on with no disagreeing votes, and I can but hope that the Prudential Committee will see its way to grant the increase, beginning at latest from Jan. next. Should prices ever recede to pre-war prices, it is possible we might be able to get along on the old salaries, but the members of the station generally have found difficulty in doing so. But with prices of nearly all food stuffs four and five times the normal, I do not say a quarter in their case, and clothing somewhat as well, it is clearly impossible to live on the old salaries, whatever the prices. It is clearly impossible to live on the old salaries, whatever the prices, and I am sorry to say that the sympathetic will show us all in debt. Of course, all our employes have the same difficulty, and salaries necessarily have to rise, even aside from the fact that we are raising a richer class of workers, as your readers know.

I shall be sending you a statement regarding the attitude of our Christian friends towards the general work of this station, and I do not merely hope that the income of the Board for the coming year may permit appropriations somewhat more adequate for the actual work, but that the great openings in the farther east, and the encouraging outlook in this nearer east, I fear we shall not stand a very good opening, even though the accompanying circular will give you an idea of the pressing situation here. I have written pretty plainly in the hope that letters will not be tempered with, and I want friends to know our true situation.

With best wishes for the new year from us both, for all friends,

Yours most sincerely

Tous Murphey

Dec. 14 1907

Rec'd MAR 20 1908

Van, Frb. 8th. 1908.

Dear Friends,

It is several weeks since I have sent out a circular letter, but for the most part, the time has passed quietly. I was laid aside from work for a fortnight, by sickness, but am pretty much all right now. Dr. Ussher too has not been well, but is much better, and the rest of the circle have had no serious illness. This week however has brought considerable excitement. On Wednesday the Govt made extensive siezures of arms and ammunition, first at the S. Krekore monastery, and then at various houses in the city. This they were able to do thru information given them by a man who had long been in the employ of the revolutionists, and knew all about their affairs, and who, for some reason, it is said, had a falling out with the leaders of the revolutionists, and was condemned to death, but made his escape and gave information to the officials. It is said that, on Wed. he went with a company of soldiers, first to S. Krekore, and then to different houses in the gardens, and during that day, some two hundred rifles and a large quantity of ammunition was siezed, no resistance being attempted. On Thursday the search for arms was renewed, and in the P.M. a quantity was being taken, when an attempt was made to kill the man who had betrayed them, with a bomb, but while two others were killed, he escaped. Two vehicles loaded with this material was being carried off, under escort of soldiers, when the revolutionists effected a rescue and took it into a house, which they defended, and for nearly two hours a very brisk firing was kept up, mostly, I understand by the revolutionists, not for the purpose of killing the soldiers, but of driving them away, in which they seem to have been successful. A pretty large quantity of dynamite bombs had been taken by the soldiers, and when they saw that they could not keep them, they left them in the street, and exploded it by a shot, causing a tremendous explosion, but doing no harm I suppose. This disturbance continued until dark, after which quiet was restored. During all the affair the soldiers were very careful not to interfere with the people at large, and up till the present time all that has occurred has been thus between the soldiers and the revolutionists. Probably not more than 3 or 4 have been killed, all from the Turks. During the night of Thurs. the house which the revolutionists occupied, as told above, was looted and burned, but probably by neighboring Turks, when they saw that the Rs. had withdrawn and it was unprotected. Friday passed without disturbance, as also Sat. to the time of present writing, and it is hoped that no general disturbance may occur, but the situation is, of course, extremely critical. Wed. P.M. a good many people came into our premises and some spent the night, but we did all we could to encourage the people to remain quietly at home

Monday A.M. Till the present time, the city remains quiet. Our services yesterday were well attended. Dr. Ussher saw the Vali on Sat. and he asked Dr. Ussher to assure the people that nothing would happen, and urge them to resume their usual business. He told Dr. Ussher that when he saw the panic that prevailed among the people, he decided to refrain from some measure which the Govt. would be justified in taking, in order that the people might quiet down. The Consul also expressed the opinion that nothing would be allowed to occur to interfere with the quiet of the city. I presume however that complete confidence is not yet restored. Of course, we can hardly fail to feel that we are living on the brink of a volcano, but we know that the Lord will not allow anything to occur which He does not see to be best, on the whole, and we leave ourselves in His hands.

With hearty greetings to all to whom this may come, I remain

Yours very sincerely

G. C. Raynolds

C. Reynolds

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Van Turkey Feb. 8-1908.

Rec'd MAR 27 1908

Van, Feb. 15th 1908.

My dear Dr. Barton,

I inclose herewith the station report for 1907. I fear you will be frightened at its voluminousness, and I do not know how its contents may affect you. Some time since, in a letter to my nephew, Mr. Colton, of Hartford, I mentioned some things in connection with the situation here, and in his reply he said he thought conditions so discouraging that it seemed to him unwise to show my letter to others lest it discourage them from contributing to our work. So I have felt that perhaps this class of circumstances had better not be mentioned to the general public. It does seem however that you ought to know both sides of the question and fully understand the whole situation. I read the first draft of this general report to the station, and we had considerable discussion as to whether it was best to send it or not, but finally decided that if it could be safe-guarded from being published, it had better go to you. Once or twice quotations from our letters have been printed in the Herald which we felt it might have been wiser not to publish. For many reasons, it is evident that the first part of this report should not be published. The discouraging influence it might have on contributors and the undesirability of having our German friends or the revolutionists, or the Turkish government see it are among these reasons. We do most earnestly hope however that it will not discourage the Prud. Com. from continuing its efforts for the growth of the Van work. To our minds these adverse circumstances are only an additional incentive to continue and increase our efforts for the upbuilding of the Redeemer's Kingdom here. Of course the unpopularity under which we, and especially I are now living is not pleasant, but if we have the approval of the Master, the rest is of comparatively little moment. Anyway I send the report for you to do what you like with it, except publish some parts.

I hope that you will receive a circular sent out by the last post, by which you will get an idea of the political situation. I am glad to say that the city has been quiet since then, the Vali says he does not wish dis-

turbance and refrained from continuing the search for arms, which he was was quite justified in making, to avoid panic and danger to the people.

We feel that the conduct of the officials has been satisfactory, and that the Consuls have acted efficiently and wisely in preventing harsh action by the government. The Vali has received a high decoration from the Sultan. More or less anxiety is felt regarding the relations between the Turkish and Persian governments, but the hope that the differences may be settled without war seem to prevail. Our former Vali, Tahir Pasha is at the head of the Commission to consider these questions and this commission is now sitting at Urumia.

It is not yet evident how the affairs of our church will settle themselves for the new year. At the annual meeting several of those whom we have called "the disaffected ones" were elected to office, but owing to the disturbed state of the city, church work has not yet been resumed by the new officers.

Dr. Ussher has been a good deal unwell, but hopes he is out of the woods now, but it is evident that he needs his vacation. He had hoped that one of our Armenian young men, who has graduated from Beirut Med. Coll. might run the medical work during his absence, but it looks as if this would not do, and we feel it almost a necessity that an American doctor should relieve him, and carry on the work during his absence. Miss Rogers is just down with a mild attack of varioloid, but we do not expect it will be serious.

With kindest regards for yourself and family and our other friends, which Mrs. Raynolds heartily joins, I remain

Yours most sincerely G. C. Raynolds.

G. C. Raynolds
Tar-Turkey
Feb. 15-1908

REC'D APR 30 1908

Van, March 9th. 1908.

My dear Dr. Barton,

Your good letter of Jan. 17th. came duly to hand, and I see by reference to my letter record that it is nearly a month since I last wrote you and I realize that I ought not to have allowed so long a time to elapse, especially when the last word sent was somewhat disquieting. But my time is very full and the time flies almost without my realizing it.

Nothing very marked has occurred since then to disturb the city, but confidence is by no means restored and the condition of the people is pitiable in the extreme. We have just been distributing Ls 200. sent for the poor from a good friend in Dublin, and I went with the distributors part of the time to get an idea of the real needs. The Arachnort put about L 75. with what we had and it was given out by a joint committee, using as a basis the examination which they had made a short time before, when they gave a few piastres to each of over 4000 persons who were actually hungry and with no means of supplying their needs. This time the number of this class has increased to over 6 000 in Van alone, without attempting to do anything for the villages. I do not think we found in any house I entered food enough for two days, and more often none atall, while the apology we found for bedding in most places was only a little heap of rags, and "worn out rags" at that as Mr. Williams used to say. By the way I would like to give you the address of a few European friends, if you have not received them already, with the suggestion that you occasionally send them some literature regarding the work of the Board. I am trying to persuade some of them to transfer their donations from the orphanage, when their proteges drop out, to the village work, so that if it is possible, we may assume the care of this as a whole instead of having the Germans take a part of it, and so introduce a second set of emplpyes and endanger friction, as I have already writen you. Your letter holds out some hope that you may be able to add something to the present very insufficient appropriations which we are receiving, and I hope this expectation may be realized. I want to

thank you most heartily for the addition you have been able to make to our salaries, and I do hope that we shall be able to live on this amount, but those who are already in debt may have a hard time to pay this off. The need for increase is equally pressing for our Armenian fellow laborers. Since the panic previously reported, confidence has not been restored, and business is absolutely stopped. Merchants hardly sell five Ps. worth a day, and it is with the greatest difficulty that we can sell drafts enough to keep our own work running. The price of grain does not decline, and suffering is constantly increasing. What our orphan boys who are to leave this spring are to do we can not tell. To stay here is to starve, and to get away is by no means easy, nor is it evident what they can do if they get away.

It does not seem hopeful that the Armenian doctor who has returned from Beirut can be trusted to carry on Dr. Ussher's work and hospital during his absence, and we very much need some American Dr. to come here temporarily to take his place, but we do not, as yet hear of any one who is able and willing to come. Dr. Ussher is in great need of the rest, but it will be very hard to get on without him unless an American can come.

Mrs. Raynolds and Miss Norton have just returned from Artemid, where they have spent three days, and I hope have secured a little rest.

We unite in hearty greetings to yourself and family and associates and I remain

Yours most sincerely

G. C. Raynolds.

Addresses. Perhaps you have them all.

Lady E. Lee Anderson, 74 Lower Baggot Street, Dublin, Ireland.

Basil Orpin, Esq. 47 St. Stevens Green, S. Dublin, Ireland.

Mrs. Madeleine Cole, Danehurst Putney, London, S.W. Eng.

Friends of Armenia, 47 Victoria St. Westminster, London, S.W. Eng.

Rev. S. W. Gentle-Cackett, Bible Lands Miss. Aid. Soc. 7 Adam St. Strand, London W.C.

Miss Agnes M. Mayo, The Lodge, Westwood Park, Southampton, Eng.

Alfred Booth, Esq. 40 Ullet Road, Sefton Park, Liverpool, Eng.

Rev. Turkey

Dec. 9 1908.

My dear Dr.Barnum, Van, March 14th.1908.

Your favor of Feb.8th.with the vote for annual meeting came by the last post. We have signed the vote in the affirmative, and I will send to Bitlis. Whether circumstances will admit of anyone going from here remains to be seen. Dr.Ussher hopes to get away by the Tiflis or Trab.route before that time. If anyone goes from here it will be Mr.Barrow, with perhaps one of the teachers. The political horizon is not very bright at present. German papers report that war between Russia and Turkey is likely to begin in April, but this does not seem very probable, and the Russian consul denies it, and he is just being ordered to Mosul and a new man is coming here, which does not look like war. The Persian question looks more serious. The Commission, with Tahir Pasha as Pres.has been in session at Urumia, but we do not hear that it made very much progress toward a settlement, and now Tahir Pasha has come to Serai, near the border on this side, which looks as if it might indicate a breaking off of communications, at least for a while. It is understood that Turkey has a good many troops at Sagj Bolak and vicinity, and some say that it has possession to the shore of the Urumia lake except the city of Urumia. Letters from Urumia indicate that internal affairs in Persia are not ideal. Much uneasiness continues to prevail here, and some arrests are being made of those whom the betrayer is supposed to have betrayed. Business now is entirely prostrate and we can not get money that we need. The recent distribution which we made included 6 570 persons in Van itself, all of them in the very depth of distress for food. Reports come from the villages of deaths from hunger, but we have not sufficient means to reach them. I inclose with this a letter for Bedros Hovnanian from his patron and also a draft for L5. which I have made payable to Mr.Knapp, which she has sent for his expenses this year.

I have a letter from the Evangelical Alliance asking for any suggestion as to action which may be needed regarding the work in this land, and mentioning the case of Pastor Keghian, whose release they are trying to se-

care. I have never heard about this case. Do you know anything about it?

Much interested in what you write about the Mezereh hospital. It is certainly about as cool as they make them. However it is not so very alike what our experience might lead us to expect. At the Cassel meeting, the Halfsband undertook to care for the whole orphanage here in Van, with the understanding that the children now cared for by parties outside their Soc. were to continue to be so cared for and the correspondence pertaining to them to remain in my hands, and I to be the head of the united institution and treasurer. It was expressly agreed that new children were not to be received without my approval. When Pastor Joh. Lohmann was here, it was planned to continue the number of children at near 500, and five new buildings were to be erected on their new lot. I expressed my opinion that so large a number was hardly worth while. One of the five buildings was begun that year. At the beginning of 1907 Sister Anna was very anxious to increase the number of girls, but I opposed it, at least till they should get into their new buildings, but I was overruled and 60 or 70 new children were received. The greatly increased cost of provisions was put before them, but they constantly said they could not grant us more than the regular allowance, but still insisted on new children being taken. Just before time to begin building operations in the spring a wire came saying erect but one more building, i.e. two in all, and when the letter came they said they had decided to build but two dormitories, and limit the children to what they would accommodate, and that those remaining above that number should remain in the American orphanage. We could not atall understand what it all meant, but finally it became clear that they had simply ignored the Cassel agreement without asking us about it, and intended us to continue a separate American orphanage on our premises, and would leave their surplus children for us to care for, again without saying "by your leave." By this time we had come to feel that it might be as well for such division to take place and so made no objection to this plan, and last Sep. when

Herr Sporri took his 100 boys to his new building, we allowed the large and troublesome boys to remain here, and he took the small boys whom he could more easily manage. The troubles of last summer would pretty certainly not have occurred had it not been for the order sent from Germany that all those above 15 years of age should be summarily dismissed, and nearly all the most troublesome boys were German boys.

The Cassel arrngement was that the station work should be carried on cooperatively, they furnishing funds for the village work, which our Board was not able to do, and a joint Com. of two Germans, two Americans and two Armenians - as advisory members till they could furnish a share of the funds - should supervise the work. Accordingly they sent us L 150. the first year, and with some funds sent from England, we carried on the work., and for the second school year, beginning in Sep. we started on in the same line. Later however word came from Pastor Lohmann that they were not willing to continue their contribution unless a certain part of the field were definitely passed over to their exclusive care and control. We replied that so radical a change in the agreement definitely made at Cassel would need to be referred to the Mission and the Board and that as we had begun this year on the old basis, we entreated that it might go on on the old basis at least for this year. I am glad to say that this was accepted. We are very anxious, if atall possible, to secure sufficient funds in some way, independently of the Germans, to enable us to care for this village work without their assistance and leave them to care for their orphanage alone, and should be glad of the support of the mission in securing this object. A mission meeting might help in arranging this.

With love from us both to yourselves and the other members of the circle, I remain

Yours most affectionately

G. C. Raynolds.

For Sec, Baston, Boston.

Rec'd MAY 13 1908

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Van, March 26th. 1908.

Dear Friends,

I am sorry to be obliged to report another sadly exciting week. Last Monday about 4 P.M. the man Tavit, who had given information about arms, etc. was walking in the street with a Turkish officer & met a young man not more than 20 Yrs. of age, I think, when he drew a revolver and shot Tavit twice, but without inflicting serious wounds, and escaped. The young man was from a some what prominent Armenian family. This greatly excited the Turks & almost ~~what prominent Armenian family.~~ immediately two men and a woman who happened to be passing at that place were killed by Turks who were near. It was just about the time for people to be returning from the city to their homes in the Gardens, and of those who came by the Arark street quite a number were killed by Turks, among whom it is said there were some officers & soldiers, several of the killed being prominent Armenians. A large part of the people remained in the city that night. In the outlying parts of the gardens, where Turkish & Armenian houses are mixed, a considerable number of persons were killed that P.M. & evening & the bodies disposed of in some way, I do not know how. Matters would have been much worse but for the most efficient action of the Ferik Pasha, the Commander of the troops, who personally dispersed those who were trying to do harm. The next morning, of course, very general fear prevailed & very great anxiety on the part of families whose families had not appeared. Dr. Ussher & I made a little circuit about the Gardens & found all quiet & soldiers posted at all important points. We went to the house of the British Consul but not finding him in, went on to the Vali's house where we found Capt. Dickson & pretty soon the Ferik also came in. We talked for some time & both of the Pashas expressed themselves as very desirous to protect the Armenians in general, while of course much incensed against the revolutionists generally & especially the one who shot Tavit. The question of safe conduct for those men in the city who wished to reach their homes was discussed and they said they would send an officer & soldiers to bring them out & we offered to go with them to give the people confidence, but this was declined. The Ferik promised to go in person. They all agreed with us that it was very desirable that the Armenians should remain quietly at their homes, instead of collecting in crowds in the streets & the assurance was given that if this was done nothing would happen & they wished us to give this information to the people. So we divided & came home by different routes, passing thru the different streets & telling the people what the Vali wished. In the P.M. the French & Russian consuls went to the city & collected the men who wished to come home, several hundred of them, & brought them out, after which, at Capt. Dickson's request, we sent men about to inquire for & write the names of those who were missing & those known to be dead. The list thus prepared showed 30 names as killed, 6 wounded & 21 missing. Some of the latter have been heard from since, but it is probable that the number of killed will go much above 30, as indefinite reports from outlying districts are being constantly brought in. We did not attempt to have school on Tuesday, but on Wed. had our morning prayer-meeting & school as usual. Mond. 30. Great excitement continues among the Turks. Sat. P.M. thousands of them gathered at the seral, demanding that arms be given them; many had white on their heads. Dr. Ussher, with letter from Consul to Vali, went in just then to see patient, was very coldly received at the seral and kept waiting half an hour till the fifty representatives of the crowd outside finished their meeting with the Vali and Ferik, during which time a binbashi who talked to him was very bitter against the revolutionists and the Armenians generally for harboring them, and accused the missionaries and consuls of doing the same thing. Later he saw the Vali and Ferik, but received no very satisfac-

Iran-Turkey. Mar. 26-1908.

Copies sent to Dist Gov'rs

MAY 13 1908

tory assurances for the future. We do not feel as sure as we would like that the Vali is not encouraging the Turks in their ideas of hostility. There also seems good reason to believe that there is a purpose of calling in the Koordish irregular troops from the outlying districts.

At present the Armenians are mostly in the walled city or that portion of the Gardens east of Hach Poghan, with no opportunity for outside communication, i.e. practically in a state of seige, and with a very small supply of grain, and no opportunity to purchase from outside. The future seems to depend on what orders come from Cons'ple. I do not hear that the Consuls have satisfactory answers from their Embassies as yet.

It is the persuasion of the Armenians that a plan had been formed by the Turks to kill the Armenians generally on their way from the city to their homes, either last Monday or Tuesday, and that the shooting of Tavit, who by the way is now dead - only precipitated the affair when but few people were on the road. That Friday and Sunday have passed with no outbreak is so far reassuring, but the situation is still very critical.

Yours most sincerely

(Signed) F. C. Raynolds.

P.S. It is said the Vali has officially informed the Armenians that safety is restored. I hope it may be true.

Rec'd MAY 13 1908

/23

Will Dr.Barton please to have copies made of the accompanying circular letter and sent to the following addresses, and oblige the Van circle.

Mr.Geo.F.Tinker, 106 School St.Concord, N.H.
Mr.F.S.Ransom, 231 Monroe St.Chicago, Ill.
~~XXXXXXXXXX~~
Mrs.Geo.C.Stearns, 1026 Brush St.Detroit, Mich.
Mr.O.B.Colton, Smith Worthington Co.Hartford, Ct.
Mrs.F.P.Calhoun, Adams M.S.Durban, Natal, S.Africa.
Mr.Stepan Pazian, c/o Mr.C.L.Wellington, Hingham, Mass.
Mr.Josiah Wright, Janesville, Wis.
Miss E.C.Wheeler, 24 Oread St.Worcester, Mass.
Rev.F.F.Lewis, Hadam, Ct.

For Mr.Yarrow,
Rev.W.H.Yarrow, D.D., Bedford St.Fall River, Mass.
Rev.Henry Tuckley, Scranton, Pa. 1643 Monroe, ave.
Dr.G.G.Yarrow, 668 Broad St. Newark, N.J.
Prof.Frank Duley, Mt.Hermon, Mass.
Rev.P.B.Walcott, Hartford, Ct.

Miss Rogers incloses a letter for her family and prefers that nothing more should be sent to them unless they especially inquire.
Miss G.M.Mc.Laren, Olmsted Falls Ohio.
Mr.Robert F.Speer, Sec.156 Fifth Ave.N.Y.

For Dr.Ussher,
The Rev.Sydney N.Ussher, St.Bartholomew, 209 F.42nd.St.New York City.
The Rev.B.B.Ussher, Dedham Mass.
Rev.J.O.Barrows, Stonington, Ct.
Mrs.F.Finley, 2 Bishop St. Montreal, Canada.

J. W. Maynard

Van Sinking

Copied and as requested

Re Rec'd MAY 13 1908

Rev.Henry Tuckley, 1643 Monsey St. Scranton Pa.
Rev. W.H. Yarrow, Fall River, Mass.
Rev. I..R.Berg, Catskill, N.Y.
Prof.Frank Duley, Mt.Hermon,Mass.

For Dr.Ussher.

Rt.Rev.B.B.Ussher,Dedham,Mass.
Rev.S.N.Ussher,St.Bartholomew's Parish House,209 E.42nd.St.N.Y.City.
Rev.J.O.Barrows,Stonington,Ct.
Mrs.F.Finley,2 Bishop St.Montreal,Canada.
Mrs.T.H.Dille,3510 Anderson Ave.Kansas City,Mo.
Miss Elisabeth H.Ussher,Hotel Acacia,6th.& Hope St.s.Los Angeles,Cal.

For G.C.Raynolds,

Mr.O.B.Colton,Smith Worthington Co.Hartford,Ct.
Mr.Geo.F.Tinker,106 School St.Concord,N.H.
Mr. T.L.Norton,Lakeville,Ct.

Van,March 30th.1908.

Dear Dr.Barton,

We have little hope that ordinary letters will be allowed to go out today,and so we hope to get the Consul to send a package for us to our Embassy,thru whom we hope a package will be given to Mr.Peet,and we would ask you to be so kind as to have copies made of the inclosed circular and sent to the above addresses for us. I send one copy for my former cook, with a list of those killed so that our Armenian friends in America may not be over anxious about their friends here.

It is said that the Vali has notified the Armenians that quiet is restored,and I hope it may be so.

Yours affectionately

G. C. Raynolds.

Van-Turkey Mar. 30-1908.

MAY 13 1908

Van, April 4th. 1908.

Dear Friends,

By mistake our last week's letters which were to go to our ambassador under consular seal, were sent open, and I do not know whether they will reach their destination or not, and so I will give a brief resume of events for the past two weeks. About 4 P.M. Mond. Mar. 23rd. the man Davit who had informed the Govt. about revolutionary arms, etc. was shot in the street, by a young Armenian whom he met, (he died after a few days.) Immediately 3 Armenians passing in the street were killed, the two streets between the city & gardens were taken possession of by Turks, & men coming from the city were done to death, mostly with hanchars & clubs. The number of killed confirmed, to date, is 42, while it is reported that many villagers were killed outside the city. Several of the prominent men of the city were included. A large number of the people remained in the city that night & hundreds of them were escorted to their homes, by the consuls, the next day. But for the most prompt & efficient action of the Ferik Pasha, Commander of troops, the losses would have been many times greater. He personally intervened to disperse the rabble, & posted soldiers along the streets from which they would enter the Armenian quarters. Extreme fear prevailed the next day, & all communication between the Armenian quarter & the rest of the city was cut off. This condition of affairs continued thru that week, & without any very great change, until now. There was great apprehension for Friday, but that day also passed without special renewed outbreak, tho individual cases of attack occurred all thru the week. The British, French & Russian consuls rendered most efficient service from the first, by going about to see with their own eyes what had actually occurred, by urging upon the Vali the imperative necessity of restraining the Turkish rabble, protecting the Armenians, and preserving order generally & by sending frequent & full information, by cypher telegrams to their Embassies. In this work it is only fair to say that Capt Dickson, the British Vice Consul, has been especially indefatigable & efficient. We foreigners & the Armenians in general are most grateful to these consular friends for their efficient labors. The markets are not yet open & scarcely anyone ventures to pass between the city & gardens tho full assurances of safety have been given. The perpetrators of these outrages have not been arrested even, & the Armenians say that till this is done they can not trust themselves to go to the city. On the other side it is said that at present there are not enough troops here to enable the Govt. to attempt such punishment, but that troops are on the way from Erzroom & when they arrive (which in the present state of the roads, can hardly be in less than three or four weeks,) it may be hoped that some of the offenders may be punished. Naturally, the Turks also demand that those who killed their friends in the Feb. affair, when they claim that some 30 of their number were killed, should be punished. It is clear that now the Govt is awake to the presence of the revolutionists, & the fact that they have much arms & ammunition here, & it seems hardly probable that they will submit quietly to a continuance of the policy ignoring them, which has been pursued till now. On the other hand, there seems no probability of the revolutionists withdrawing, so that the prospect for the future is not bright. The amount of grain available in the area where the Armenians are practically besieged is very little, so that the ovens can sell but a limited supply of bread, while few have any in their houses so that even the well-to-do are hungry, & of course much more the poor. I 50. came most opportunely from Mrs. Cole, & the Arachnort put a similar amount with it, & permitted the use for bread of some barley he was saving for seed, & with this we are issuing rations for a few days to some of the hungry. Present food & future crop prospects are not encouraging. Yours truly (Signed) G. C. Raynolds.

Pour Thurkof - Apr. 4-1908.

Rec'd MAY 13 1908

23

Van, April 4th. 1908.

Dear Dr. Barton,

Last week we made up a large package addressed to our Ambassador at Cons'ple, containing a circular letter, several copies of which were sent to Mr. Peet with the request to send to parties indicated. One was for you with the request that you would have it copied and sent to our friends, whose names were sent with it. This letter I took to the British consul-to open, hoping that he would consent to seal and send it. He was not at home and I left it with his dragoman, but he was busy elsewhere that day and sent word for a letter of his own to be sent to the P.O. but ours to be left till the next week. But there was a misunderstanding, and our letter was sent in unsealed. We learn that an Armenian employe sealed it and put it in the bag, but whether it will be allowed to go on to its destination we do not know. Should it be opened, the Govt. would probably object to it, as it related the story of the week rather fully. We can only trust the matter to the Lord. Not knowing whether it has gone or not, I have prepared another briefer circular, which I am sending to the Ambassador by Monday's post, and a copy is for you. I would beg that you would be so very kind as to have it copied and sent to our friends as per list inclosed. I will include a list of the names as confirmed till now, of those killed, which I beg you will send, with a copy of the circular to Stepan Pazian, c/o C.L. Wellington, Hingham, Mass. that the Armenians in America may know whether their personal friends are killed or not.

The situation is exceedingly grave. After the demonstration of Feb. showing that arms and ammunition are here in large quantities, as well as many revolutionists, it can hardly be hoped that the Turks will permit the conditions of the past few years to continue. The revolutionists, as I have frequently written, are very much in evidence, assume to control the Armenian people, the most of whom, either thru fear or persuasion, have accepted the situation, and become more or less identified with them, and the Govt. considers them as fully responsible for the acts of the revolutionists. What would be the result if the latter were now really and fully to withdraw, I can not tell, but should hope that no massacre would follow and that little by little, a better status might be established. But there seems no hope that they will think of withdrawing, and so I can hardly see what prospects remains except the utter extermination of the Armenian people, sooner or later. Life hardly seems worth the living sometimes, even to us, with all this doubt and uncertainty about us, and what must it mean to these watch-ful people, who are in mortal fear for their lives, and who have no means of procuring daily bread. We are using a small amount of money recently received to furnish barley bread, at a reduced price to some who can pay a little and giving free to a few, but this will not last very long. There is little hope of being able to do much in the line of giving seed this spring, even if there is such safety in the villages as to permit sowing. It seems as if neither the people nor we could stand this sort of thing much longer. Business having stopped, we can not get the money we need for daily use, and have asked Mr. Peet to send money by post instead of checks, but it will be weeks before it can arrive. The Usshers want to leave as soon as the roads open, but it seems as if we could not get along without him and the hospital in such times as these and no American Dr. seems available, while it will not do to trust the hospital to the student who has come from Beirut. Altogether, it is the darkest outlook I have seen yet.

We do know that our dear Father still reigns, and we try to so realize this as to keep our hearts in quiet and peace.

With hearty greetings from us both to all friends

Yours most sincerely

G. C. Raynolds.

Van, April 4th. 1905.

Dear Dr. Barton,

Last week we made up a large package addressed to our Ambassador Gons'ple, containing a circular letter, several copies of which were sent Mr. Peet with the request to send to parties indicated. One was for you with the request that you would have it copied and sent to our friends, those names were sent with it. This letter I took to the British consul, hoping that he would consent to seal and send it. He was not at home and I left it with his dragoman, but he was busy elsewhere that day and sent word for a letter of his own to be sent to the P.O. but owing to he left till the next week. But there was a misunderstanding, and our letter was not in unsealed. We learn that an American employe sealed it and put it in the bag, but whether it will be allowed to go on to its destination we do not know. Should it be opened, the Govt. would probably object to it, as it related the story of the week rather fully. We can only trust the matter to the Lord. Not knowing whether it has gone or not, I have prepared another circular, which I am sending to the Ambassador by Monday's post, and a copy is for you. I would beg that you would be so very kind as to have it copied and sent to our friends as per list inclosed. I will include a list of the names as confirmed till now, of those killed, when I send you will send, with a copy of the circular to Stephen Pasian, c/o G.I.W.I. Hingham, Mass, that the Armenians in America may know whether their personal friends are killed or not.

The situation is exceedingly grave. After the demonstration of Feb. showing that arms and ammunition are here in large quantities, as well as many revolutionists, it can hardly be hoped that the Turks will permit the atrocities of the past few years to continue. The revolutionists, as I have frequently written, are very much in evidence, assume to control the Armenian people, the most of whom, either thru fear or persuasion, have accepted their situation, and become more or less identified with them, and the Govt. consider them as fully responsible for the acts of the revolutionists. It would be the result if the latter were now fully and fully to withdraw. I can not tell, but should hope that no massacre would follow and that little by little, a better status might be established. But there seems no hope that they will think of withdrawing, and so I can hardly see what else remains except the utter extermination of the Armenian people, sooner or later. Life hardly seems worth the living sometimes, even to us with all this doubt and uncertainty about us, and what must it mean to those wretched people, who are in mortal fear for their lives, and who have no means of procuring daily bread. We are using a small amount of money recently received to furnish barley bread, at a reduced price to some who can pay a little and giving free to a few, but this will not last very long. There is little hope of being able to do much in the line of giving seed this spring, even if there is such safety in the villages as to permit sowing. It seems as if neither the people nor we could stand this sort of thing much longer. Business having stopped, we can not get the money we need for daily use, and have asked Mr. Peet to send money by post instead of checks, but it will be weeks before it can arrive. The Usmers want to leave as soon as the roads open, but it seems as if we could not get along without them and the hospital in such times as these and no American Dr. seems available, while it will not do to trust the hospital to the student who has come from Beirut. Altogether, it is the darkest outlook I have seen yet.

We do know that our dear Father still reigns, and we try to so realize this as to keep our hearts in quiet and peace.

With hearty greetings from us both to all friends

Yours most sincerely

Fanny Chambers Chambers

ed May 13-1908.

List of Armenians killed at Van, March 23d & subsequently.

Sahag Agha Sabonjian
Apraham Jurnigian
Krekore Muradkhanian
Church Agha Sherakian
Sahag Gharib Vartanian
Boghos Boghosian
Nazaret Pagheshtsian
Mugerdich Agha Maksabedian
Boghos Kababian
Vartan Agha Ghazarian (Makinaji's bro.)
Ghevant Yeremian
Krekore Dubaghian
Krekore Topuzian
Tavit Artemidstsi (khizarji)
Mugerdich Der Kevorkian
Paiel Saboian (Karnanian)
Marderos Zaranian
Nushan Delanian
Garabed the English Consul's cook
Apraham Aleurtsi, Dr. Fedir's cook
Kaloost Mugerdichian
Three Harents men, names unknown
Two Nestorians, names unknown
Bazas Manoog
Harootune Dangovian
Garabed Shaljian (Sandi Poghan)
Baghdasar Krekorian (a Khizaji)
Krekore Dabahgian (companion of above)
Stepan Aghakhanian
Bedros Agha Der Harootunian
Church Agha (Kevork) Chapkanian
Marderos Karalavendian
Kevork Mogatsi
Vahan Shahenian. Wounded but alive
Iknadeos Amadonian
Apraham Agha Kazasian or Geroian
Bedros Sertli
Dekran Semirjian
Nushan Paghchanian
Avedis Mirzoian
Nahabed Mirzoian
Garabed Farjulian
Bedros Garbodian
Nushan Matteosian
Simeon Allahverdian, Bashkalla
Michaiel, another Bashkalla man
Marinos Shaljian, a very old man.

I believe this is as correct a list as can be made today, others may be known later. A number of villagers are reported but not confirmed. My object in sending this list isthat friends in America and Stamboul may know the facts and not be over anxious.

(signed) G. C. Raynolds

(dated) Van, April 4, 1908.

Rec'd at Van Nov 23-08
E. M. Cole

List of Armenians killed at Van, March 1908 & subsequently.

Sahag Agha Sabonjian
Abraham Jurnigian
Krekore Mardkianian
Church Agha Sheraklian
Sahag Gh rib V rtanian
Boghos Boghosian
Hazaret Paghesteian
Mugerdich Agha Makasbedian
Boghos Kabakian
Vartan Agha Ghazarian (Makinajil's bro.)
Shevant Yeremian
Krekore Mahgnian
Krekore Topuzian
Tavit Artemisetsi (Khizarji)
Mugerdich Der Levorkian
Paial Sabotan (Armenian)
Mardaros Zurnian
Mushan Delianian
Garded the English Consul's cook
Abraham Alvertsi, Dr. Fodir's cook
Kazaret Mugerdichian
Three Harents men, names unknown
Two Vastortians, names unknown
Bazaz Manoog
Harootune Dangoyian
Garded Chaljian (Sandi Poghan)
Baghdasar Krekorian (a Khizaji)
Krekore Babahgian (companion of above)
Stepan Aghakanian
Bedros Agha Der Harootunian
Church Agha (Levork) Chapkanian
Mardaros Karalavendian
Levork Mogatsi
Vahan Shahenian. Wounded but alive
Ikandos Amadonian
Abraham Agha Kazasian or Gerolian
Bedros Gerdji
Bekras Semirjian
Khachen Paghdanian
Avedis Mirzoian
Nahabed Mirzoian
Garded Karjalian
Bedros Garodian
Nuian Matteosian
Simeon Alianverdian, Basmalia
Michael, another Basmalia man
Markos Khajian, a very old man.

I believe this is as correct a list as can be made today, others may be known later. A number of villages are reported but not confirmed. My object in sending this list is that friends in America and Europe may know the facts and not be over anxious.

(signed) H. T. Raymond

(dated) Van, April 4, 1908.

Rec'd MAY 22 1908

Van, April 15th. 1908.

My dear Dr. Barton,

Your favor of Feb. 21st. came since the last post went out. I hope you have received letters sent last week thru the ambassador, and it is unnecessary to repeat. Nothing special has occurred during the past week. Confidence is not restored, the markets have scarcely been opened atall, and so the very small remnant of business which there was before has wholly stopped, and money is absolutely impossible to obtain, so that we have the greatest difficulty to care for our daily needs, and find it utterly impossible to find funds to give out for seed the small amount which we had been keeping for that purpose. It is now time for the spring sowing, but there is neither money to help in getting seed nor is there such confidence as will permit the villagers to go to their fields to sow them, so that the prospect of an even greater scarcity next year is very threatening.

It is hard to live under such conditions, with such unlimited poverty pressing upon us all the time for relief, which we are utterly unable to afford, thereby seeming to the people heartless and unsympathetic.

It is most desirable that there should be a mission meeting this year, especially to consider the matter of relations between the German and American work in this land. The treatment we have received from the Hulfsbund is not reassuring for the future, while what we hear from Harpoot is still more disquieting. It seems as if some decided action should be taken by the Board to safeguard its interests in this matter. I do hope that some way may open for meeting the expense of our village work without being obliged to pass over a part of it to them, thus giving them a permanent foothold in the general work. Every week gives us more and more reason to feel the importance of this matter. Please tell Dr. Strong that his kind letter is received and appreciated. I hope that your health is getting reestablished and needed rest secured. With hearty greetings for all friends from Mrs. Raynolds and self, I remain

Yours most sincerely

G. C. Raynolds.

E. E. Chagnolde

Tau - Turkey.

Apr. 13 - 1908.

Rec'd JUN 3 1908

Van, April 25th. 1908.

My dear Dr. Barton,

We are very glad to learn that you have been taking a vacation, and it is our earnest prayer and hope that it may have proved entirely successful in restoring you to full health and vigor, for I am sure that you must have been in great need of such a rest.

I write today to present a special subject which was brought to my attention thru the last post, in a letter from Pastor Ernst Lohmann. His letter is writen unofficially and "in deepest confidence" to me, but in order to make an answer of any value, I felt it necessary to ascertain the ideas of my American associates, and so I read the letter to them last evening. As the most of them felt the plan to be a desirable one, it seems that it should certainly be brought before the meeting of the mission, at Harpoot, if it is possible for such a meeting to be held, and I feel that that meeting ought to know how the Board would look on the plan, in order that, should both Board and Mission favor it, and the Hulfsbund also, it might be possible for the matter to take final form at that meeting. So I assume the responsibility, (and inform Pastor Lohmann of the fact,) of presenting the subject to you also, in confidence, sure that nothing will be publicly said about it at present, but asking you to give whatever instruction you may deem best to the Harpoot meeting.

The letter begins with the expression of a desire to promote harmonious relations between our two societies, and closes with the following language. "I think that following this proposal, conflict might be avoided and difficulties could not arise, which leaving things as they are now so easily renew themselves. We can not leave things as they are, for on both sides we are doing a lame work as it is. It is my most hearty wish to find the right way, on which we both in full harmony can work for the best of the country and the people."

The proposal which he makes is the following, viz. that the whole o the Bitlis field be passed over to their Soc. and they remove their whole work from Van. Dr. Ussher was not inclined to favor the plan, on the grou that if things are left as they now are, the probability is that the Germa will run their work into the ground and be forced to retire entirely from the field, which he felt would be the most desirable result. Most of the station felt that as far as Van is concerned, the plan was a desirable one. In my own mind it lies something like this. To attempt to divide the Va field with the Germans can hardly fail to injure the work as a whole. The field is small and all grouped around one centre, where the superintende must necessarily reside, drawing their native workers from the same comm nity and laboring in such close proximity that any difference of opinion or method would be at once evident, and could not fail to interfere with t best progress of the cause both have at heart. The experience of the p year has shown us that the danger is a real one. On the other hand, if whole of the Bitlis field, the Moosh portion of which they have already t ken over, were passed to them, they would have no superintendents of anoth nationality residing in the same centres and drawing their native workers from the same community, and so would be free to adopt such plans as they might see best and use the methods which seemed wisest, without interferin with other societies or being interfered with by them. The Bitlis stati field is well isolated from all its neighbors and so is well adapted for separate cultivation, while without passing thru any other field, it is easily accessible from Pala, which is, I believe, the portion of the Harpoot territory which has been given to them. If this arrangement were made, the funds now used by our Board at Bitlis could be used for the other stations, and might, it is to be hoped, make it unnecessary for the Van station to seek German assistance in caring for its different departments, as it has recently been compelled to do. How the Board and the Mission and c

cially the Misses Fly will view the question of giving up Bitlis as a station of the Board, I do not know. That it would be a real trial for the Misses Fly there is no doubt, but in view of the fact that so large a portion of their people have already gone to America, while the movement is still continuing with unabated vigor, they might be the less disinclined to follow them, especially as their age, like our own, makes it certain that not very many more years of service can be expected. The same post which brings Pastor Lohmann's letter also brings the announcement that a man has, at length been found for Bitlis, but as there is also a pressing need for men in other stations of the F.T.M. there will be no difficulty in finding a place for him, even were this arrangement consummated.

Pastor Lohmann suggests that their buildings here might be exchanged for those of the Board at Bitlis. In the division of the property of the German and American orphanages now being consummated, it is probable that the building erected for girls, adjoining our house here, will fall to the American orphanage and thus become the property of the Board. Their new property is very finely located, and would be an admirable site for the college which the Mission, at its last meeting, approved of for Van, while the two buildings already erected could also probably be made to accommodate such an institution at its beginning, and there is ample room for as many buildings as might be needed. I presume that the buildings belonging to the Board at Bitlis would not be as valuable as this German property is.

His suggestion regarding the orphanage is that it might be continued under our control, but I doubt if we would venture to attempt to carry it on under the superintendence of the Hulfsbund. They might very possibly take some of the children with them to Bitlis, and might continue a small part here for a time till the children were ready to go out.

I thus place this whole subject before you, asking that you will send word to Harpoot, before the time for the meeting, as to what view the Board

takes of the matter., but I beg that you will not forget that this communication is entirely confidential, and that Pastor Lohmann does not say that he is sure that his Society will certainly approve the plan. All that can be done is to give a conditional approval or disapproval of the plan.

I am sorry to say that the political situation here is as yet, far from satisfactory and many things indicate that there are those among the Turkish population who desire an opportunity to do mischief, but to what extent they will be restrained or encouraged we can not tell.

With hearty greetings from us both to all friends I remain

Yours most sincerely

G. C. Raynolds.

George C. Raynolds
Van Turkey.
Apr. 25 - 1908

Rec'd JUN 8 1908

Van, May 4th. 1908.

Dear Friends,

There is no very special reason for sending out a circular this week, so far as reporting anything of special importance, as the two weeks since my last circular have brought no specially important happenings, but in the present delicate situation here, I venture to hope that our friends will be glad to know when nothing happens!

The Armenians speak of this Easter as the saddest one they remember. Mo Arachnort gave notice in the churches that it was undesirable for the people to circulate as usual at that season, and this notification was generally regarded, so that the streets were almost empty, and people only called on a few special friends. We made a few calls but mostly on our own community, going to very few places outside of this.

During the previous week or two, the Armenians circulated a paper for signatures, one copy for the Consuls, one for the Patriarch and one, I think, was intended for presentation to the local government. It was in the nature of a statement of their grievances, but a good many felt that it was not wise to present it, and many of the leading people declined to sign it, and among them the priests of the different churches. Consequently a notice was posted at the churches saying that as the priests declined to share in the difficulties of the people, the people did not wish them to come to bless their houses at Easter. It is said, but I can not vouch for it, that in a few places where calls were attempted, they were repulsed. At any rate, the usual Easter calls were not made, and so the priests' spring harvest was fruitless.

The anticipated searching of houses has not yet taken place, but considerable numbers of new troops have just come in, and on Sat. soldiers were posted in some or all of the near villages surrounding the city, and many interpret this action as preparation for such search, but I have no information as to the intentions of the Govt.

The taking of the inventory of orphanage property, preparatory to the division has been pretty much completed, and our German friends seem to have been convinced thereby and by the propositions we make concerning the division, that we have no intention of taking any unfair advantage of them, and their feelings toward us seem to have much improved. At their request, the boarding department also is divided except that the boys who have remained on our premises are not yet removed. The making out and settling the accounts for the last five months remain, but we hope that the whole work may be completed harmoniously.

The Ussheers are nearly ready to start for their vacation, but the route is not yet decided on. They had hoped that they might be able to take their servants with them, and thru Russia, but efforts to secure such permission have been unsuccessful, and it is not evident whether they will go via Russia alone, or whether they will go via Trebizond, so as to have their servants with them. Just now there is a large caravan here from Erz. which has brought soldiers, and it is possible that they may improve the opportunity to go with them, as it will doubtless be cheaper than the usual kers.

We have just been enjoying a fine snow storm, leaving an inch or so of snow on the ground, but buds are beginning to swell, and we expect that we may be able to take down stoves in a week or two.

Hoping that you are all well, and with hearty greetings from us both,

Yours most sincerely

G. C. Raynolds.

Van-Turkey May 14-1908.

Rec'd JUN 20 1908

Van, May 23rd. 1908.

Dear Friends,

My last circular was dated May 4th. During the two weeks following that date nothing special in political lines occurred, but soldiers were a little more in evidence. We were busy with orphanage accounts, getting ready for the final division of property and separation of the institutions. Dr Ussher found it would be impossible for him to take any Armenians with him, via Russia, and hoped to secure horses that had come here to bring soldiers, but either the Govt. sent them elsewhere, or they were afraid of being siezed, and that plan did not work. So on Friday May 15th. the party consisting of the Ussher family, Sister Clara, the German Nurse, their servants and about 30 boys from the orphanage, with some others embarked by boat for Fljivas at the N.W. side of the lake. They had a slow but quiet passage arriving Sat. P.M. and according to letters sent on Sunday, hoped to get off by caravan on Monday. They report 300 horses to have died there from starvation, and in place of the 40 horses they wanted they could get but 34, so that the boys will have to do a good deal of walking. The departure of the boys is an immense relief, as there is absolutely no chance for them to obtain work here, and tho we know that they will have a hard time elsewhere, we hope it will at least be possible for them to live, and their departure enables us to get the orphanage onto a more satisfactory footing again, and with smaller numbers and smaller boys, we hope that recent difficulties may not be repeated. I am happy to report that the division of the orphanage property between the German and American orphanages has been arranged without friction, tho it will be some weeks before the girls' building at the new quarters will be ready to permit them to move from here. A good many German boys are also still boarding with us here.

The last of last week the Govt. called representative Armenians and demanded that they should give up to them the revolutionists and arms concealed among them, failing which search would be made. Notice was given that any persons giving themselves and their arms to the Govt. would be pardoned, but those siezed would be severely delt with, but I do not hear that any one availed himself of this offer. In common with others, we took great pains to make sure that no one had brought anything contraband onto our premises for concealment. On Monday soldiers were posted all around the city, about a mile away from the houses, and the numbers among the gardens was increased. On Tuesday soldiers surrounded a clump of houses in the outskirts of the gardens, evidently knowing just what they were after, and found an under-ground excavation, from which they secured one of the 3 revolutionary leaders, Aram, the boy who had shot the man Tavit, two others from abroad and several Van men. The search has been continued ever since five days now, Sat. but I do not know just how much they have found. Several times, I believe, they have gone to definite houses, where they seem to have known what they would find, and secured arms, ammunition, etc. but I do not think any very large amounts. Apparently they have reason to suppose that persons and arms are still concealed, but how successful they will be in finding them, and what will come after finding or not finding, I can not guess. Thus far the general population have not been injured, farther than now and then beating some one to extort information, and the week has been wonderfully quiet. Of course there is no opportunity to work or trade & suffering from hunger is great. Mr. Yarrow had hoped to start next Mond. for the Harpoot meeting, but till the result of the present action is clear it hardly seems wise for him to leave, and he is wiring to ask for postponement of the meeting. We are very grateful to the Govt, for the orderly way in which it has conducted this search, and shall be most thankful if it succeeds in suppressing this miserable revolutionism. G.C. Raynolds.

Rec'd

. I had hardly finished the previous sheet when a vigorous firing be-
n 1/8 of a mile west of us and continued several minutes. It seems that
Dear or five of the R.leaders had gone into a house there and were making
ea, when soldiers went to the house. The Rs.opened upon them, and some say
killed one soldier, rushed out of the house, told the surrounding soldiers
to give them way, and so passed safely for some other section. It was re-
ported that they had come this way, and soldiers ran this way. Whether
they thought they saw men go into the house, I do not know, but two soldiers
entered a house close to our premises, and riddled two men with bullets, men
who had no relations with the Rs. They seemed to think the Rs.might be
on our premises, and got the Consul to come with them, and looked over the
premises and the people in them, but found none of those they wanted. One
man who had come in was said to be some one they wanted, and Capt.Dickson
thought he needed authorization from his Embassy before giving him up, and
passed him over to me to keep, but on Sunday The Capt.said he had concluded
the Embassy's special permit was unnecessary, and he had given word to
the Govt.that they might have their man, and expected his dragoman would
soon bring an officer here to take him, but till now, (Mond. 10 A.M.) no one
has asked for him. The Capt.has felt sure that no massacre is intended
and that the safest course for the people to take is every man to stay in
his own house, and so has wished us not to receive people into our premises
and this has been our own opinion, but some of the people have felt hardly
toward us for excluding them. On Sat.P.M.many managed to get in by climb-
ing walls, breaking doors, etc., and despite our best efforts, quite a number
got in, beyond those to whom, for various reasons, we gave permission.

Sunday we kept all doors closely shut, but had a service in the school
room for the orphans and the people who were on the place. This, Mond.A.
M. it is reported that the Rs.withdrew from the city Sat.night, but whether
this is true or not I can not say. Some say the Govt.believes it to be so,
but the soldiers are still stationed in some of the streets.

The suspense and anxiety and fear in which the people generally have
been during the last week is awful, and it has been very trying for us also.
The suffering from hunger is very great, and if this thing keeps up much
longer, it seems as if the people would be entirely used up.

G.C.R.

Van-Turkey May 23-1908

Copies

Rec'd JUN 20 1908

Van, May 25th. 1908.

Dear Dr. Barton,

I inclose circulars giving an account of recent occurrences here. If you think it worth while to have copies made and sent to the friends whose names I have previously sent to you, I will be very much obliged. Since the circular was writen firing has again occurred, but I do not know what it may mean. The continued strain is awful.

We have received copies of Sec. Bell's letters to the Mission Sec. of March 6th. and April 1st, and yours of Apr. 11th. for which many thanks.

We are very sorry to hear about the dreadful Chelsea fire, and feel the greater personal interest from the fact that so many of our Armenian friends are living there. We hope none of them lost their lives, and that they will not be subjected to very great suffering. It was too bad about Miss Stones mementoes being destroyed. I inclose a circular for my former cook, whose address was P.O. Box 42, and I presume the same address will reach him. If you will be so kind as to forward this package to him, I will be much obliged. I hardly venture to send to his address from here today.

Sent

Hoping that your vacation has done you lots of good, and that you will be permitted, ere long, to welcome our associates, the Usshers, who left here ten days since, I remain, with hearty greetings from us both to you all

Yours most sincerely

G. C. Raynolds.

F. C. Raynolds

Van Turkey May 25-1908

Rec'd JUN 29 1908

Van, May 30th. 1908.

My dear Dr. Barton,

I think you already know something of what has been going on in Van during the present year, but I will very briefly review earlier events before telling of more recent ones. Early in Feb. a man named Tavit, who had a falling out with the other revolutionists, revealed their secrets to the Govt. which, with his help, secured a pretty large quantity of arms and ammunition. During this affair a little brush occurred between the Rs. and the soldiers, in which a few of the latter were killed, and a considerable explosion of dynamite took place, but without doing special harm. From that time till May 23rd. things were in a very unsatisfactory condition, but nothing very marked occurred. On the latter date, the man Tavit, who had been kept at the house of a Turkish officer, was shot, on the street, by an Armenian lad whom he met, and immediately the Turks began killing passers by on the street, and during that day and the two or three following ones more than fifty Armenians were killed. For a fortnight the markets were closed and all work at a standstill. Then men began to go to their shops a little, but never more than half the shops were opened, business thus almost entirely stopped, and poverty increased terribly, and so the time passed until May 11th. when the number of soldiers having been immensely increased, the Govt. began a search for arms, ammunition and men. A number of men, including one of the revolutionary leaders, some others from abroad, and several Van men, including the lad who killed Tavit, were found in an under-ground retreat and captured, and at various houses in different quarters of the gardens, considerable quantities of arms and ammunition were taken. For several days this search was conducted in a pretty regular manner, and the common people were not disturbed, tho sometimes a soldier would help himself to some article, or demand food from the houses. But as the days past the soldiers grew less careful. On Sat. P.M. May 23rd. several of the revolutionary leaders had entered a house a short distance from our place and were preparing tea, when some soldiers and officers also entered the same house. The Rs. fired upon them, but I think without wounding them and then left the house, and went thru the cordon of soldiers unharmed and withdrew to another quarter. The excited soldiers then began to rush in the direction where they had not gone, viz. toward our premises, and people who happened to be near also ran. Several men entered a house next door to us, and soldiers followed them and began shooting, killing four men who were not atall connected with the Rs. so far as I know, and one of whom was an excellent young man of our acquaintance. Our quarter was thus thrown into great confusion, a good many men managed to get into our premises by climbing over walls, etc. and later the officers came with the Eng. consul and looked over our premises, but did not find any of the Rs. The next day we did not attempt to open our church, but had a service for those here in the school room. During the next three days the search was carried on very strictly in the city, and we were obliged to keep our place carefully closed to prevent crowds pressing in, since both the consul and we felt that it was most undesirable for people thus to leave their homes, which we felt to be the safest place for everybody. If those who were killed had remained quietly at home they would have been safe. It is now generally believed that the outside Rs. have left the city and gone to some place among the villages. The searching of houses still goes on but I do not hear that anything of much importance is found. Some men whose names seem to have been given to the Govt. by Tavit or others are being arrested, and how long this work is to continue no one knows.

To what extent the search for arms is being pushed in the villages I do not know, as all communication with the villages has been cut off, but we learn that some horse loads have been brought in from the villages.

Just how much has been found I do not know, but it is the general impression that several hundred rifles and many thousands of cartridges have been captured. The Govt. certainly might have purchased the material thus secured at a much less cost than that to which it has been subjected, in bringing so many thousands of soldiers here from distant parts of the land. On the other hand the revolutionists, if it was there purpose to present this material to the Govt. might have spared the Armenian population an infinite amount of loss in life and property, and of anxiety and suffering, if they had given it to them directly!

Some years since I prepared an article for which I have been severely criticised, with the purpose, if possible, of persuading those who had charge of this revolutionary movement, to desist from the course they were pursuing. I pointed out that the circumstances of the country rendered it quite impossible to carry out a successful rebellion, while the carrying on of useless revolutionary propaganda only increased indefinitely the evils under which the people were suffering. I mentioned that in the Moosh region arms had been brought in, and the people compelled to buy them, often sacrificing their necessary live-stock, etc. for the purpose, only to have the arms gathered up by the Govt. thereby bringing severe punishment on the people who brought them, and occasioning the destruction of villages, and depopulating provinces. I stated that there seemed a tendency to practice the same tactics here in Van, and that the results were likely to prove equally disastrous. This year has brought the sad fulfillment of my prophecy. The knowledge that this revolutionary propaganda was being carried on has acted as a constant irritant to the Govt. causing it to emphasize its usual policy of oppressing the people rather than protecting them in their rights, and last year, ~~and last year~~ the excessive and cruel collection of taxes was added to the other burdens under which the people were suffering, so that poverty reached a point never dreamed of before, and the suffering from actual want became general and intense. To this have been added during the present year the evils related on the previous page, and if this insane policy is continued by the revolutionists, the only ~~possible~~ result possible would seem to be the entire extinction of the Armenian population of the province. A general desire now prevails among the people to emigrate just as fast as is possible, but as yet it is by no means easy to get away, and the prospect of finding a favorable refuge elsewhere is not promising. It looks now as if the wretched people would be left to starve to death if the diabolical policy of the revolutionists is continued.

It is a fortnight now that our dear friends and associates Dr. and Mrs. Ussher and Sister Clara, the German Nurse, have left us and we have hoped before this to receive a wire[x] telling of their arrival at Erzroom. We shall miss them very much but are more than glad to have them get the rest and change which they so sadly needed.

With hearty greetings from Mrs. Raynolds and myself to yourself and all inquiring friends, I remain

Yours most sincerely

G. C. Raynolds.

x The wire has come!

Van - Turkey - May 30 - 1908.

Rec'd JUL 1 1908

Van, June 15th. 1908. X90

Dear Friends,

I hope that you have received my circular of May 23rd.- 5th. in which I told of the excitement which prevented our having our regular services on the intervening Sunday. It was several days before all of those who had managed to get into our premises had withdrawn, and the searching went on vigorously and has continued more or less till the present time. That is to say this work has now continued four weeks and up to last Friday we heard of new finds. I have no accurate information as to the amounts discovered, but it must amount to a good many hundreds of guns and very many thousands of cartridges, together with a good deal of dynamite. The latter is taken down to the lake shore and exploded to get rid of it. A week ago Sunday an explosion occurred sufficiently heavy to shake the church perceptibly, tho some seven miles away. Large quantities of papers and books, containing their accounts and records for years have also been secured, and sufficient men arrested to enable them to get information about pretty much everything that has occurred, and it would seem that they must have secured about all the material there is. We are most thankful that this work has been accomplished without any general disturbance and with far less of cruelty than would naturally have been expected. A good many men and some women have been beaten, but generally in cases where they had information that things were concealed and definite information of the place was refused, tho doubtless in some cases innocent persons have suffered. One of our former employes was arrested and I think confessed that at one time contraband articles were concealed in our premises but were long since removed, and in consequence of this the Vali requested the Eng. Consul to allow a search here, and so they came last Sat P.M. but were very polite, and seemed merely to be seeking confirmation of the man's confession, and nothing was found and I think they were fully convinced that there was nothing here. In the villages I fear less care has been exercised to conform to strict justice. I do not hear that any great quantities of arms have been found in the villages, but only the few in each village which the people had been compelled to purchase and it would seem that the general depot was in the city. The leaders, with the exception of those captured in the underground room, at the beginning, are still at large, so far as I know, but what hope there may be of their capture I do not know. It would certainly seem that they would desist from their insane and diabolical work, now that all the thousands of lires worth of material which they have brought in, at such expense of life as well as of treasure, has fallen into the hands of the Govt. involving as it has such immense losses to the people at large of life and property. For five or six months now business has been prostrate. Occasionally some of the shops have been open, but for many weeks the market has been entirely closed and it is only within a few days that a general opening has taken place. Money entirely disappeared from sight, so that we were obliged to have what we needed sent by post from Cons'ple. You can partly imagine the immense loss and suffering which this statement reveals. We are most grateful to the Lord that the present prospect gives hope of an abundant harvest this year, and we pray that the hope may not be disappointed. Last Wednesday Mr. Yarrow left to attend the meeting of the mission at Harpoot, and Mr. McDowell went with him as far as Bitlis, on his way to Jezereh and that portion of his field, so that at present I am the only male member of the station here. The Armenian schools have been interrupted for weeks, but ours have continued, but I think we shall not have any public exercises connected with the close of the year.

Yours most sincerely G.C. Raynolds.

Vun-Turkey June 15-1908

Rec'd JUL 18 1908

Van, June 22nd. 1908.

Dear Dr. Barton,

I inclose letters for the Usshers, with the request that you will kindly forward to them, if they are not with you, and you are at liberty to read what I have writen to the Usshers, and I will not repeat.

I hope that you received my communications concerning the question of transferring Bitlis to the Germans, and it is my prayer that the Board and the Mission may be guided to the wisest and best decision concerning it. It would certainly be a relief to us if the change were made, and it seems to me as if the interests of economy and efficiency and good feeling would be conserved thereby, but it may appear differently to others. I hope that Mr. Yarrow will reach Harpoot tomorrow, and that the stations will be well represented there.

We hope that it will be possible to send the lady who is talked of for F.T. to take Miss Norton's place, as otherwise the department of female education will be much cramped next year, while at Harpoot, with Mrs. Carey still on the ground, and so many native, efficient workers, it would seem that they may pull thru another year, if necessary.

With hearty greetings from us both for yourself and all friends I am

Yours most sincerely

G. C. Raynolds.

Van — June 22-1908

Rec'd AUG 1 1908 18

Forwarded

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Van, July 7th. 1908.

My dear Dr. Barton,

I again inclose to you a letter for Dr. Ussher for you to read before forwarding and so learn how we are, tho you will see that nothing very important to report. I was very much delighted to get, by the last post, your favor of May 25th. and to learn that the letter giving an account of the disturbances of March 23rd. got thru safely, and I hope that Van people in America may have appreciated the opportunity of ascertaining the facts. We hope that Mr. Yarrow may have started yesterday from Harpoot and in expectation of his reaching us by next week Friday, the date fixed for the wedding is July 18th., preparations for which will keep us rather busy till then. We hope that the Germans will be able to move their girls to their new building this week. Our relations with them continue cordial but they are as much disgusted as we at the way in which the Hulfsbund people are writing to them and to me. It seems incomprehensible that they should so utterly fail to appreciate what the true situation here is. They insist that they have fulfilled their last obligation in sending the allowance agreed upon when prices were normal, and desire to ignore all defecits resulting from the three and four-fold increase in the prices of food stuffs, and talk as if I had been dishonest in not paying over to the Germans here sums sent for relief, but which had to be borrowed for the running expenses of the orphanage till they should make up the deficits, which they never did make up. Whether they will refuse to turn over the title for the building which they formerly announced would be given to us when the separation should take place, but which we prefered to pay for in the division of assets I do not know, but this seems to be the only place where they can interfere with the arrangement which we have made, and which is satisfactory to all of us on the ground. I wish these letters might have been before the Harpoot meeting.

Mrs. Raynolds joins in hearty greetings to all our friends and I am

Yours most sincerely

G. C. Raynolds.

G. C. Raynolds

E. C. Raynolds

Van-Turkey- July 7-1908

rec'd AUG 10 1908

Van, July 13th. 1908.

My dear Dr. Barton,

Last post brought your favor of June 10th. which was most interesting, and I hasten to reply, but will not speak of the question of the giving up of Bitlis until I know what the action of the mission has been at Harpoot. We learn that Mr. Yarrow reached Moosh on Sat. on his return trip, expecting to reach here next Friday, so that the Norton-Sterrett wedding may take place on Sat. the 18th. There is nothing special to report regarding the political situation, and so I will write today only about Miss Silliman's coming. We do hope that the decision will be or has been made that she is to come to Van, tho I do not doubt that Harpoot also is in great need of such a helper, but the immediate need seems more pressing here and the fact that Miss Rogers knows Miss Silliman, and that the latter desires to come here, seem to constitute a Providential indication for this arrangement. Now regarding the question of time for coming. I wish it might have been possible for her to come with the Maynards, as that would have very greatly simplified the problem and diminished the expense, But as this was impossible, the next best thing will be for her to come via Tiflis, If there is an American Consul at Batoum, as will probably be the case, tho I believe a change is being made there, and notice is given him as to the Str. on which she will come, I think it might be practicable for him to send some one with her to Tiflis, or perhaps even to Igdir, and some one can go on from here to meet her. This would be much cheaper than for some one to go from here to Batoum, since the caravan which would go with the person going could wait and return with them without undue expense for delay. We can arrange with Mr. Peet to be notified as to her plans, in advance and so meet her promptly. The important point relates to time of coming. The road between here and Igdir is one that can not be passed after the winter sets in, and the date of winter's beginning is very uncertain. I have been over the road as late as the last week in Nov. tho with considerable difficulty, but last year Miss Rogers came over it the last week in Oct., while I came from Agants the following week. On the first of Nov. a

leave Sept 16 N.Y. "Winifredian" Boston

a storm set in which continued for about a week, and my trip from Arants was one of the hardest I have ever made. Consequently I should say that the trip should be so planned that the arrival here should not be later than the end of Oct. At least ten days should be allowed between Cons'ple and Igdir, and six from there to Van, so that it should be planned to leave Cons'ple not later than Oct. 14th. As to the trip from Batoum to Tiflis, or Igdir, when we came on two years ago, we were unable to get our baggage out of the custom house the night we arrived in Batoum, and rather than wait there, we had a young man from the cons late bring it on to Tiflis the following day, and this same man took Miss McLaren on to Batoum on his return, and I think it almost certain that a similar arangement might be made for Miss Silliman, and it might be best for her to come right thru to Ichmiadzin, the station nearest to Igdir, simply changing cars at Tiflis, as she would probably have no special business at Tiflis, and this would considerably decrease the trouble and expense.

Miss Silliman may be very sure that a warm welcome awaits her at Van, and we shall all be greatly delighted when we learn that the appointment is definitely made to this station. I will send a duplicate of this letter to Miss Silliman, that she may know our ideas on the question and be assured as to the feeling of the station.

This week will be a busy one for us all getting ready for the wedding. My wife has enjoyed a fortnight of rest at Artemid, but whether I shall succeed in getting any real rest this summer or not remains to be seen.

With kindest regards from us both to all friends, I remain

Yours most sincerely

G. C. Raynolds.

Van-Turkey-
G. C. Raynolds
July 3-1908

Rec'd AUG 1 1908

Van, July 20th. 1908.

Dear Friends,

Knowing that you are all interested in us and our work, and being unable to write to you each separately, I am going to manifold a letter to tell you about the experiences of the last week. American weddings are a rarity in this land, but last week we were favored with one, and I venture to think you may care to hear about it.

Nearly five years since Miss Susan R. Norton came to us from Conn. to care for our kindergarten work. She has proved a most efficient kindergartner, but has by no means confined her activities to that department, but in the school and evangelistic work she has been a most efficient and acceptable worker, endearing herself to all our circle and to the Armenians universally. Not far from the time that she came to us, the Rev. Chas. C. Sterrett also came to Van to reside. He is a missionary of the Presbyterian Board, and connected with the Persian Mission to the Nestorians, and as many of this people live on the Turkish side of the border, he and Mr. and Mrs. McDowell established their head-quarters here in Van, and we have greatly enjoyed their society and have received much help from them in our work. Two or three years since Mr. Sterrett's residence was transferred to Urumia, but he seems to have left his heart behind him, in Miss Norton's charge, and a few months since we learned to our surprise that he was coming to claim his own. Keenly as we regret losing Miss Norton to our work and our society, we can not fail to rejoice with her in the new life of love and sympathy which is thus opening before her, and it has been a real pleasure to us to be permitted to share in launching our friends upon their new course in life. The preparation for such an affair here is a very different thing from what it would be in the home land. There are no professionals upon whom we can call to provide the entertainment or to arrange the tables or decorate the rooms, nor any printer to provide the invitations, but all must be done by ourselves and our willing native associates. And first, who is to be invited? Our own tastes and preferences are not the first things to be consulted, but rather what will best promote the Lord's work and further the great object which has brought us to this land? It would be pleasant and hopefully profitable to invite many hundreds to share in our joy, but both the size of our rooms and the length of our purse are limited. We finally decide to invite all the members of the two churches, including husbands and wives, whether members or not, and then a considerable number of those who are fully identified with us, tho not church members, and this brings the number to nearly 250, which is as many as our kindergarten room, which we use for such entertainments, will accommodate, but we add the head of the Armenian Community and a few other representative members. The Vali and Commander Pasha, with the European circle must be entertained separately, and Mr. and Mrs. McDowell, who are now living in Dr. Ussher's house, are kind enough to furnish rooms for their reception and assist in providing a wedding lunch. These rooms and the church are tastily adorned with green boughs and flowers, and a floral bell is suspended in the church, over the heads of the bridal pair. They were married with a ringa modified Episcopal form being used, the bell also being utilized at the lunch table. We hope that the affair passed off satisfactorily and will do good to the cause. The groom and bride are planning to start soon for their first furlough, after which they expect to return to Urumia for their second term of work.

With hearty greetings from wife and self for each one to whom this may come, I remain

Yours most sincerely

G. O. Raynolds.

Van, July 30th, 1906.

Mesdames,

Knowing that you are all interested in us and our work, and being unable to write to you each separately, I am going to manifold a letter to you about the experiences of the last week. American weddings are a rarity in this land, but last week we were favored with one, and I venture to think you may care to hear about it.

Nearly five years since Miss Susan R. Norton came to us from Oorumiah to take our kindergarten work. She has proved a most efficient kindergartner, but has by no means confined her activities to that department, but has been a most efficient and evangelistic worker, endeared herself to all our circle and to the Armenians generally. Not far from the time that she came to us, the Rev. Chas. O. Stoddard also came to Van to reside. He is a missionary of the Presbyterian Board, and connected with the Persian Mission to the Nestorians, and as this people live on the Turkish side of the border, he and Mrs. Stoddard established their head-quarters here in Van, and we have greatly valued their society and have received much help from them in our work. Three years since Mr. Starrett's residence was transferred to Urumia, and soon to have left his deserted home behind him, in Miss Norton's charge. In the since we learned to our surprise that he was coming to claim her.

Keenly as we regret losing Miss Norton to our work and our society, we can not fail to rejoice with her in the new life of love and sympathy she is thus opening before her, and it has been a real pleasure to us to be permitted to share in launching our friend.

The preparation for such an affair here is a very different matter from what it would be in the home land. There are no professionals upon whom one can call to provide the entertainment or to arrange the tables or decorate the rooms, nor any printer to provide the invitations, but all must be by ourselves and our willing native associates. And first, who is to be invited? Our own tastes and preferences are not the first things considered, but rather what will best promote the bride's work and interest. The great object which has brought us to this land. It would be quite impossible to invite to many hundreds to share in our joy, and the size of our rooms and the length of our purses are limited. We decide to invite all the members of the two churches, including men and wives, whether members or not, and then a considerable number of those who are fully identified with us, the not church members, and this makes the number to nearly 300, which is as many as our kindergarten room was for such entertainments, will accommodate, but we add the Armenian Government, and a few other representative members. The Vice-Commander Pasha, with the European circle, must be invited, and Mr. and Mrs. Modwell, who are now living in Mr. Usanger's house, are kindly to furnish rooms for their reception and assist in providing a lunch. These rooms and the church are tastefully adorned with green and flowers, and a floral bell is suspended in the church over the place of the bridal pair. They were married with a ring modified Episcopal service being used, the bell also being utilized at the lunch table. We trust the affair passed off satisfactorily and will do good to the cause. The bride and bride are planning to start soon for their first journey, during which they expect to return to Urumia for their second term of work. With hearty greetings from wife and self for each one to whom this may remain

Yours most sincerely

G. O. Raynolds.

Rec'd AUG 1 1908

Van, July 21st. 1908.

Dear Dr. Barton,

I inclose an account of the wedding of last week, which you are at liberty to use in any way you wish. I would like to have the dear Strong and Means friends see it.

The city and province are quiet now, and the revolutionists are not in evidence, but whether the satanic propaganda is more than scotched I do not know. It is worth something to have a respit, and I hope some of the Armenians will be braced up to resist the reestablishment of recent conditions. Our Maurif Mudir, who is very kind and friendly, recently showed me a letter, found among the numerous papers siezed, addressed to me, with a request to deliver to an Armenian name, but which had no heading or signature, and was a revolutionary document. That our kindness should be thus grossly abused does make me very angry, and I should be most delighted to find some way of protecting myself from being thus used as a tool by these villains. I should be glad for other reasons to be relieved from this work of receiving letters and money for others, but it would be very hard on the people who use this method of reaching their friends. Two letters have recently come to me from which drafts have been abstracted. The Herald contained a warning on this subject and it might be well for Armenian papers to do the same thing. Mr. Yarrow has returned from Harpoot and tells of a good meeting and that the German question was discussed, but I have not yet seen the report. The German children are now withdrawn from our premises, but we have not heard what the Hulfsbund says to the division yet.

I hope my letter of last week, advising that the end of Oct. be the very latest date for Miss Silliman's arrival, reached you safely. How much rest I am likely to get remains to be seen. I am thinking of a trip among the villages, but it would not be entire rest.

With best wishes from us both for all friends

Yours most sincerely

G. C. Raynolds.

C. Raynolds

Van-Turkey. July 21-1908.

REC'D SEP 12 1908

Van, Aug. 17th. 1908.

Dear Dr. Barton,

Last post brought Sec. Bell's kind letter of July 17th. for which I beg you to thank him. As I suppose you are back home by this time, and you know our situation so much better, it seems more natural to address my letters to you. I hope the trip to England has given you the rest you need as well as accomplished the special object you had in view.

I have written rather fully to Dr. Ussher of refent occurrences, and the parts of the letter will not especially interest you, I venture to send it for you to read and then forward to Dr. Ussher, as I have not time to write a full letter besides.

With kindest regards from us both to all friends, I remain

Yours most sincerely

G. C. Raynolds.

G. C. Raynolds

Van - Aug. 17-1908

Rec'd SEP 28 1908

Var, Aug. 31st. 1908.

My dear Dr. Barton,

I inclose a duplicate of my letter to Dr. Ussher, thinking that you know so much about things here that there may not be very much you will not understand, and thus saving time.

The present position and attitude toward us of the revolutionist leaders is calculated to cause some anxiety, save as we are sure that this whole matter is under the control of One wiser and more powerful than either the revolutionists or ourselves. With present freedom, the Armenians are having meetings of various kinds on Sunday which will be likely to diminish our congregations and also the general interest in religious things. It is a situation which especially calls for prayer and faith and earnest effort on the part of all God's children who feel any interest in the condition of the Armenian people.

Hoping that you are safely back at your desk again, and that you have obtained the rest you needed, and with united best wishes from wife and self, I remain

Yours most sincerely

G. C. Raynolds.

Van - Turkey - Aug. 31 - 1908.

Rec'd SEP 2 1908

Van, Aug. 31st. 1908.

My dear Ussher Friends,

I have enjoyed your letter, Dr. of July 31st. and I believe it came since I last wrote. Not very much of special interest has occurred during the last week, but you will be glad to know that Mr. Wigram has just been in, with his new associate, having just come up from Artemia, where they have broken camp. He limps still and uses a cane, but thinks he is going to get complete use of his limb. Both bones were fractured near the ankle and the callous was enormous. There was a Colle's fracture of the radius which is entirely healed. (Mrs. Reynolds' case also promises to give complete motion.) Mr. Browne has gone to Urumia for the winter, and Mr. Bowden is to leave soon and make the journey from Bitlis to Mosul with the German Consul, who leaves here on Thursday, via the north side of the lake, for Moosh. The Russian Consul and his wife are not very content with Van as yet, think they both have heart trouble and that the elevation is too great for them.

His excellency, Ali Riza Bey, has been removed from this post to become Vali of Costemony. He appointed the mutasarif of Bashkalla as his vakil, but the local soldier class refused to accept him, and soon wire came from Cons'ple. appointing the Ferick Pasha to that place, to the general satisfaction of the people. I do not hear who is appointed permanently. It is said that some L 100. which Ali Bey tried to take from the treasury for his travelling expenses, together with some arms of those taken from the revolutionists, were taken from him before he started. He went by boat.

Aram is now attempting to assume the direction of Armenian affairs in this vicinity. He seems to expect to take the superintendence of education, and thinks it quite unnecessary for us to bother ourselves about anything in that line. It is said that the Doctor and Sarkis, and I am not sure but some others of the revolutionary leaders have come in today and called on the Ferick, and I suppose consider themselves partners with the military class in carrying out the new constitution. It seems that Aram

attempt to prevent the coming of a man who has been appointed Arachnort, and who is well on his way toward Van, but it is said he is not succeeding in this. It is a man who was formerly in that place at Erzroom, and became unacceptable to the Ks. for some reason.

What effect all this is likely to have on our work, and on the Armenian people remains to be seen

B. Tavit is talking considerably about trying to find work somewhere else. He demanded that the church should make up his back salary, promise to keep it up in the future, and to follow his leadings. This demand was sent in in writen form to the Ch. Com. but that Com. has not yet taken any definite action in the matter. Tavit has seemed to be feeling somewhat differently toward us of late, but took occasion to say, a while since, that his opinion regarding the great mistakes of our conduct was inchanged.

Now that travel in Turkey is free, it is probable that B. Armenag may have no difficulty in returning to this country, if he wishes, when he completes his course next spring, and I have good hope that he might prove an acceptable and useful laborer here.

Nishanian is taking hold of religious work more, of late, and seems to have a somewhat more favorable idea as to uniting with the church, but has not yet decided. He wants to send a girl to Marsovan to be trained for his wife, and his present choice seems to be for a daughter of the brother of the Mashinaji, the man who was killed in consequence of Tavit's killing.

Schools are to open on Wed. and the graduating exercises of the boys school are to be held on Friday.

Well, I guess I have pretty well exhausted the news, and so will say good night and retire. Mattie joins in best love to you all and I am

Yours ever affectionately

Turkey-
Aug. 31-1908

RECEIVED OCT 12 1908

Van, Sep.14th.1908.

ar Friends,

The graduating exercises of the boys'school were postponed,on ac-
unt of Mr.Yarrow's absence at Harpoot,and the unsettled condition of the
ty,and were held last Friday,Sp.11th. The Ferik commanding,who is also
ting Vali,asked us if we would like the presence of the military band,but
declined. He was present at the exercises,as also a much larger num-
r of Turks than ever before. The local Tashnagist leaders were present
also a number of representatives of the Salonika Com,who had arrived the
y before. After our regular exercises were closed,the Ferik was invit-
to speak,but he requested that opportunity be given to Nejib Bey,a Turk-
h member of the newly arrived commission. The jist of his remarks was
at in this land,two brothers had been living at enmity with oneanother,
e result being oppression and wrong and suffering,but now they had comet
regard each-other as friends,and thus a new era was dawning for the land
her Moslem member of the commission followed and then an Armenian member,
'ter which two of the local Tashnagist leaders spoke. Two of these spea-
rs spoke appreciatively of the American work,one of them,Aram,who was cap
ured in May and imprisoned,hoped that the Americans would no longer con-
ne their efforts to the Armenians,but permit the Koords,etc.to share in
e benefits,and that ere long the Armenians themselves would so complete-
y come to their own,that further foreign help would be unnecessary. One
peaker spoke of revolution as a mighty river,which would be able to clear
way all the obstructions which might be placed in its pathway. All the
peakers were enthusiastically cheered by the Turks present as well as by
e Armenians. These unexpected occurrences served to emphasize the im-
ense change which has taken place,since the time when the exercises would
turally have taken place,when revolutionists were being imprisoned and
aten,and the use of the word was tabooed. After the public exercises,
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icial class,and then to the graduates. It is said that Nejib Bey has
d a meeting with the Turks by themselves,in which he has told them that
e previously existing relations between the two classes were all wrong
nd exhorting them to accept gracefully the changed conditions.

The Armenians are holding meetings from time to time in preparation
r the election of their representative for the new parliament. A re-
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eeting in a hall,as large or larger,in connection with the Central School.
e meeting is said to have been rather stormy,the question especially at
ssue being the socialistic plan of having real estate,at least,divided e-
ually among all the people. These occurrences show some of the difficul-
ies which beset our work at the present time. They seem now to be mak-
ng an effort to prevent us from carrying on any independent village work,
t least in places where they are able to send their own workers. At Sha-
akh,where for several years,we have carried on educational work in coope-
ation with the people,the Rs.object to the teachers we are sending,and it
ooks as if it would be impossible to do any religious work there,in con-
ection with our schools,and unless we are free to do that,there is,of
ourse,no object in our sending teachers. I hope that in places where we
ave work in progress,and there is no room for two teachers,we may be able
o continue work. We feel especial need,at the present time,of wisdom and
ace to deal with these many questions,and ask your prayers.

Yours sincerely (Signed) G.C.Raynolds.

Van, Sep.14th.1908.

Dear Friends,

The graduating exercises of the boys' school were postponed, on account of Mr. Yarrow's absence at Harpoot, and the unsettled condition of the city, and were held last Friday, Sp.11th. The Turk commanding, who is also Vali, asked us if we would like the presence of the military band, but declined. He was present at the exercises, as also a much larger number of Turks than ever before. The local Tashnagist leaders were present also a number of representatives of the Malonka Com, who had arrived the day before. After our regular exercises were closed, the Turk was invited to speak, but he requested that opportunity be given to Keith Bey, a Turkish member of the newly arrived commission. The gist of his remarks was that in this land, two brothers had been living at enmity with one another, the result being oppression and wrong and suffering, but now they had come to regard each-other as friends, and thus a new era was dawning for the land. Her Moslem member of the commission followed and then an Armenian member, after which two of the local Tashnagist leaders spoke. Two of these speakers spoke appreciatively of the American work, one of them, Aram, who was educated in Bay and imprisoned, hoped that the Americans would no longer confine their efforts to the Armenians, but permit the Kooids, etc. to share in the benefits, and that are long the Armenians themselves would so complete come to their own, that further foreign help would be unnecessary. One speaker spoke of revolution as a mighty river, which would be able to clear away all the obstructions which might be placed in its pathway. All the speakers were enthusiastically cheered by the Turks present as well as by the Armenians. These unexpected occurrences served to emphasize the immense change which has taken place, since the time when the exercises would certainly have taken place, when revolutionists were being imprisoned and exiled, and the use of the word was tabooed. After the public exercises, the usual recepitions were given, in the kindergarten room, first to the official class, and then to the graduates. It is said that Keith Bey has had a meeting with the Turks by themselves, in which he has told them that revolutionary existing relations between the two classes were all wrong and inviting them to accept gracefully the changed conditions.

The Armenians are holding meetings from time to time in preparation for the election of their representative for the new parliament. A report was sent in on Sat.evening, but I do not know just how official, that it was permitted to use our church for such a meeting yesterday, Sunday, and the Ch.Com.had by the preacher, were inclined to grant the request, but the missionaries argued strongly against it, and I made an absolute protest. Fortunately however, the request was not renewed, and they had to hold the meeting in a hall, as large or larger, in connection with the Central School. The meeting is said to have been rather stormy, the question especially as to being the socialistic plan of having real estate, at least, divided equally among all the people. These occurrences show some of the difficulties which beset our work at the present time. They seem now to be making an effort to prevent us from carrying on any independent village work, at least in places where they are able to send their own workers. At Shukh, where for several years, we have carried on educational work in cooperation with the people, the object to the teachers we are sending, and it looks as if it would be impossible to do any religious work there, in connection with the our schools, and unless we are free to do that, there is, of course, no object in our sending teachers. I hope that in places where we are work in progress, and there is no room for two teachers, we may be able to continue work. We feel especial need, at the present time, of wisdom in how to deal with these many questions, and ask your prayers.

Yours sincerely (Signed) G.O.Raynolds.

Rev. G. O. Raynolds
Van, Turkey
Sept 14th 1908

Rec'd OCT 16 1908

Van, Sep.15th.1908.

dear Dr.Barton,

As there is a minute before I need to send off the post, I will ite a line to go with the circular. It is evident that the situation re is very delicate. The Tashnagist Com.is now practically in charge the Armenian part, at least, of the population. They openly oppose all ligious ideas, and so are unfriendly to us. There are some among the ple who are not willing to be led away from religion, and who hope to set motion a counter current, and are looking to us for help. It is unde- rable for us to antagonize the Ts.unneccessarily on the one hand, and on e other we can not yield our principles. The question of using our Ch. lding for their political meetings, on Sunday is still hanging, and I do t know what stand our people will take concerning it. They say the Ch. their's and we have only an equal vote with them, as individuals in any y about it. I should be glad to know what view other friends would take this question. It is clear that the people are ignorant, and unprepared r self government, and competent and Christian leaders are most important. he of our teachers are trying to influence the situation for good, and it important that we should not be considered as enemies by the Ts.if we help it. They have objected to the teacher whom we were sending to adakh, the reason being, I suppose, that they think that when he was in the hool, he occasionally let us know of some of the irregularities which were ing on among the boys, in connection with the Rs. We have now asked them finitely if they wish to cooperate with us in educational work, on the ba- s that we have full freedom to teach the Bible and religion, but have no swer as yet. They may try to shut us off from village work, but how they uld succeed remains to be seen. We need wisdom from above, that we may t make mistakes. Pray for us.

Yours most sincerely, with loving greetings for all from us both

G. C. Raynolds

J. C. Raynolds

Van - Turkey - Sept. 15 - 1908.

Van, Oct. 5th. 1908.

My dear Dr. Barton,

Your favors of Aug. 18th. and Sep. 2nd. are before me, and I thank you for them and for all the kind and sympathetic messages which you are so constantly sending us. I hope that your trip to England has done you lots of good, and given you the rest which I am sure you must have needed. I have been much interested in your article in the Advance about the missionary conditions prevailing in England.

Owing to cholera and quarantine in Russia, it seems prety certain that Miss Silliman will not be able to come in via Tiflis, and so I am planning to start on Friday next for Erzroom, hoping that they will be able to make arrangements for her to come in safely from Treb. to Erz. I hope by starting so soon, without waiting for word of her arrival in Cons'ple. to get two or three days visit and rest at Erz. which I think will do me good. If I should find that she was delayed, so that there was time for me to go to Treb. I might do so, but this is very improbable. I shall wire Mr. Peet of my movements. At present the weather is very pleasant, no frost here as yet, but of course, we must expect storms before we get back.

There has been no special change in political conditions since I wrote you. The voting for electors for members of parliament is nearly through in the city, but I do not know how it is coming on in the villages. It is generally expected that "The Doctor" the Tashnagist leader will be returned from here, but of course it is not yet certain. There is some party feeling among the Armenians, and there have been slight disturbances in some of the meetings which have been held, and last week a candidate opposed to the Tashnagists became angry with the Arachnort for sending a telegram to Constantinople about some Koordish oppressors, and slapped him in the face. The worst thing in the present situation is the irreligious attitude of those who are acting as leaders, and the holding of meetings on Sundays which draw away men's thoughts from religious things and diminish the attendance at our services.

With hearty greetings from us both, Yours most sincerely

G. C. Raynolds.

E. C. Vaughan

Van Turkey

Oct. 5 - 1908.

Rec'd NOV 9 1908

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Van, Oct. 3th. 1908.

My dear Dr. Barton:

I had planned to start this morning to meet Miss Silliman, at Igdir, Russia, but am delayed till Monday, and I will improve the opportunity to write you on a subject which seems very important to the station.

This is the matter of our village work. As you know, the Hulfsbund has declined to continue its contributions for such work, unless a definite part of the station field should be passed over to their exclusive care. As we have repeatedly written you, this seemed to the members of the station extremely undesirable for many reasons, unnecessary to repeat here, and so we informed the Hulfsbund that we considered it beyond our province to arrange for such division, unless directed to do so by the mission and the Board. Consequently the Hulfsbund has definitely declined to make further contributions for this work. The recent Mission meeting at Harpoot voted that "The result of the division of the Harpoot field would seem to emphasize the necessity of the Board's furnishing sufficient funds to our missionaries at Van to carry on their work alone and thus avoid a recurrence of the present complications in the Harpoot field." We therefore consider that we are justified in not making the division they asked for. We have put the needs of this work before some of our friends in England, some of whom have previously contributed for this work, hoping that the needed funds might be thus provided. In response we have received a donation of Ls 50. from Mr. Orpin, of Dublin for this purpose, and our good friends, the Misses Mayo, of England have permitted us to use anything of their contributions, which we can spare from the orphanage, for this purpose. But the continued high prices are likely to compel us to use the greater part of this for the orphanage. I do not think that we have, as yet, even L 100. to use for this purpose, while the work we have in hand will require considerably more than L 200. I have had considerable hope that Mr. Orpin would increase his donation, as I have written him in such a way as to give him an understanding of the need, but a long time has passed with no response, so

that I have now little expectation of further help from that source. I have put the matter before several other friends, but have no response. Unless something more does come in, we shall find ourselves without means to meet the obligations we have assumed, shall be obliged to close our schools in the middle of the year, send the teachers adrift in mid winter with no means of providing for their needs, and bring great disgrace upon our whole work and the name of the Board, besides the injury to the work itself.

And now a few words as to the importance of this work. Three or four years ago a new school building was erected in connection with the monasterry of Akhtamar, largely, as I understand, with funds brought in by the revolutionists, its special object being to provide teachers for village schools. The instruction given here is distinctly and directly anti-religious, and the revolutionary leaders have carried on an active propaganda of atheism and infidelity. The Central High School recently founded here in Van is distinctly throwing its influence in the same direction, and from both of these schools teachers are being sent out to train up the rising generation on these anti-religious lines. Thus a strong effort is being made to sweep away even the nominal Christianity, which, despite its weakness has been a powerful factor in preserving the Armenian nation from perversion to Islam. Almost the only effort now being made to stem this tide of atheism is that which we are able to put forth, mainly by means of our school and this fact seems to make it vitally important that we should be enabled to continue this work in the villages as well as in the city. When outside friends have generously furnished nearly half of what is needed, we do hope that the Board may be able, in some way to make up the rest and relieve us from the terrible evil which would come from closing up our work. To dismiss these helpers whom we have been able to train for this work, aside from the great injustice to them would cripple all the future of our work. We not only could not hope to replace them when funds came for resuming the work, but others would be discouraged from entering a work, when they would

be liable to be thus summarily dismissed on account of failure of funds, and thus a terrible blow would be given to our whole work.

Allow me to call attention to page 11 of the report of the Harpoot meeting, which gives the percents which the meeting at Van reported as what it felt should be granted, and which were approved at Harpoot, viz. Bitlis 15 per cent, Erzroom 17, Harpoot 25, Mardin 22, Van 21. This shows what the mission considers to be the proportionate claims of the work of the different stations, as well as what it feels should be the whole amount granted. At present Van receives only 11 percent of the smaller appropriation the sum which has not been changed for so many years, tho the demands of the work have greatly increased, and the ability of the people to contribute their own share has very greatly decreased, certainly in the Van vilayet. It thus appears that the Mission felt that Van needs for its general work L 363. while what it now actually receives is L 150. which is insufficient to cover the actual expense of the educational work alone, in the city, and has never reached to the village work atall, that having been covered by contributions from England and from Germany. Last year we received L 150. from Germany, and to make up the loss of this, we need as much from some source, but as yet have received not more than L 25. So we earnestly hope that the Prudential Com. will find some way in which to make up this deficit and save the Van work from the great disaster which would come from abandoning this village work and the workers who are carrying it on.

With Christian salutations from wife and self to yourself and family and the other friends at the rooms, I remain

Yours most sincerely

G. C. Raynolds.

Van-Nuckey

Harpoot

Oct. 9 - 1908

3

Allahabad

Cathedral Mission

Rev. G. E. Phillips

I

Van-Nuckey

Harpoot

Oct. 9 - 1908

Allahabad

Cathedral Mission

Rev. G. E. Phillips

I

Rec'd NOV 30 1908

Van, Nov. 2nd.

Dear Friends,

Monday Oct. 12th. I started for Tiflis, to meet Miss Silliman reaching that place Sat. 17th. and found that she had been waiting for me 4 days. We started back on Mond., hoping to reach home that week, but were obliged to spend the Sunday 8 hours away, arriving here on Mond. Oct. 26th. With the exception of a couple of hours of hard rain and wind, the weather was fine. Miss S. stood the journey wonderfully and would never admit being either tired or lame. The journey as a whole was very successful, but Sunday eve. I had a chill, and have been laid up ever since reaching home. I found my wife in bed with the same disease, her attack having begun the previous Sun. Malaria this year is very unusually severe, depressing and hard to break up and it has proved so with us both. The amount of medicine which usually stops the disease, seemed to have no effect whatever, while the depression and weakness have been extreme. We are both mending now, but very slowly.

The political situation has been very critical, but I hope has begun to improve. From the time the constitution was proclaimed, the Tashnagists have undertaken the role of leaders of the Armenians, and have managed to get the lines pretty much into their hands. Where the school committees, they get their people elected, the same with church and ward Coms. It is reported that they have arranged that one of their number, a Van man formerly in our school, shall come here as Arachnort. They used their power as seems to me, very unwisely, holding meetings constantly and making other unnecessary demonstrations, till the common Turks became absolutely exasperated, and represented to the Acting Vali that these Russian subjects must get out of this and that if he did not attend to it, they would, and that they knew how to do it. The Vali was so much alarmed that he called on Consul Dickson for advice. The latter then called the Tashnagist leaders and talked to them like a Dutch uncle. Told them they had had nothing to do with bringing the constitution, and need not boast about it. At the time the constitution was proclaimed, their business had gone up here, their arms and ammunition had been siezed, some of them were in prison, and the rest were being hunted down. That they were the ones most benefitted and now, what return were they making? Their course was endangering the peace of this community, a massacre was imminent, and if they did not so change their policy as to avert this danger, they be doing all in their power to show the world that the constitution was a failure, because the Armenians were incapable of properly using it. The talk seems to have done much good, and the crisis is considered past.

Last week a member of the Salonica commission arrived here, and is well spoken of, and may hopefully compel both sides to modify their present position. Last Friday a great public demonstration took place, when many thousands of all classes (not many of the common Turks) formed an immense procession and marched to the British Consulate, led by crossed British and Turkish flags, while a Com. of five presented the message of the people in appreciation of what England has done in the Bulgarian crisis. Our Bn. Rushdonian acts as Translator in all these interviews with the Consul, and is taking considerable part in what is going on, and is universally respected, tho he does not hesitate to show the Tashnagists plainly wherein he considers their conduct wrong.

"The Doctor" the head of the Tashnagists here for several years, is the candidate for parliament, and is elected unless a few scattering votes from outlying provinces, and Turkish quarters should cause a change; the final decision is expected today.

With kindest regards from us both to all friends

Yours most sincerely

G. C. Raynolds.

G. C. Raynolds

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Yours most sincerely

Rec'd NOV 30 1908

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Van, Nov. 3rd. 1908.

Dear Dr. Barton,

Just a line to go with the circular. We are both of us recovering very slowly from a severe attack of malaria.

Armenian Friends in America write that an effort is being made to persuade the Armenians that my presence here is a menace to their people and that propose to appeal to the Board to recall me, failing which they will commit the matter to the local Tashnagist Com.

I am sending an order today for wagons, etc. but if you are recalling me, this need not be sent!

I am too weak to write more today. With love to all from us both.

Yours affectionately

G. C. Raynolds.

Van Turkey. Nov. 3-1908.

I venture to send a letter for Mr. Kapreilian thru you, as I am not informed of his address.

Van, Nov. 23rd. 1908.

My dear Dr. Barton,

Rec'd DEC 26 1908

The last post brought good letters from yourself and from Dr. Patton, for both of which we are very grateful. It was kind of Dr. Patton to write so encourageingly regarding the present situation in Turkey. I find that a good many of the Armenians are taking a pessimistic view of the present situation, fearing that the improvement will not be permanent, and from our standpoint, the local outlook is certainly not very encouraging, since on the one hand the character of those who are assuming the leadership of the Armenians is so far from what we desire, and on the other hand, the Govt. has not yet showed any intention of repressing the Koords, and so bringing about safety in the outlying districts. A new Vali arrived a few days since, but he does not seem, as yet, to have shown his hand very much and no one ventures to prophesy what course he will take. There are some indications that the people are not going to submit tamely to the anti-religious propagenda, now attempted, but opposition to it has not yet taken definite form. Mr. Chambers, the international Y.M.C.A. Sec. is here at present, and finds considerable numbers of young men who are interested in the idea, and it may be that before he goes away an organization can be accomplished. You already know something of the situation here, that there are a good many who are interested in religious things, are largely in sympathy with us and our work, but are not willing to unite with our church, or to be considered as identified with us, hoping thus to accomplish more for the people at large, who are prejudiced against the Protestant movement. Many of our own people are also inclined to sympathize with this idea. So it is desirable that, if such organization is effected, it be done in a way to avoid being considered as a Protestant movement. All this makes a delicate situation, and we need special wisdom to deal with it. Mr. Chambers had expected to leave today for Bitlis, but he has been persuaded to stay another week, in the hope of being able to bring matters to a head.

Sister Anna, one of our German fellow workers, has typhoid fever and we

Without business connection in Turkey

have been anxious about her for a few days, but I hope that a turn for the better has taken place today, and that she will pull thru.

It was only Friday evening that we learned the result of the Presidential election, and we are well pleased and very thankful for the result.

We had hoped that the papers giving a full report of the Brooklyn ~~mee~~ meeting would reach us by the last post, but we must wait another week, tho we get some reports from the other papers, which show that it was a very interesting and profitable meeting. But this debt hangs like a pall over the whole situation. We have already writen you something about our village work. We had considerable hope that friends in England would come to the rescue, and did not feel like diminishing the work much from what we were doing last year, and so we have begun schools in about a dozen village while the funds in hand will only suffice to carry us half thru the year. To shut up the schools at the middle of the school year would be a dreadful thing, would be wronging the teachers whom we have put in the schools, wronging the pupils to whom we have given promise of instruction, and would be a terrible blow to the prestige of our whole work, a blow from which we can hardly hope that it will recover. Of course, if we are unable to carry on this work ourselves, it will be a dog in the manger policy to prevent the German Hulfsbund from taking a section of the field, as they have expressed a desire to do. What shall we do about it?

It seems very evident that the way in which we can hope to stem the tide of irreligion which is coming in like a flood, is by making our schools a power in the community, and this can only be done by keeping their grade equal or superior to that of the Armenian schools, and this requires teachers of high education and character. We may hope to keep such teachers, if we can pay sufficient salaries, but this will require larger appropriations than we are now receiving. Again, what shall we do about it?

Wife and I are beginning to call ourselves well again, but have not ou full strength. We unite in hearty greetings to yourself and family to Dr. Patton, to Dr. Strong and family and Mrs. Means, and to any other of our friends, and I remain

Yours most sincerely

G. C. Raynolds.

Van-Turkey. Nov. 23-1908

Doc 4 FEB 27 1909

Van, Jan. 23rd. 1909.

My dear Dr. Barton,

Your favor of Dec. 2nd. is to hand, and I will try to send you a brief answer by this post. Thank you for the encouraging words your letter contains, and I deeply lament that my own consciousness shows me how far from worthy I am of the appreciation which some of my friends who do not know me so well, sometimes bestow upon me. I do desire that what little may remain to me of life and work here should be more worthily used than the past has been.

We are rejoiced by the encouragement we get from yours and others' letters, that something may be done to help us thru the year without our being obliged to dismiss our village workers before the year closes. Another Ls 50. from our dear and most generous friends, the Misses Mayo, has more than half filled the deficiency in the department of village work which the Dec. account showed, and perhaps something more may come from the B.L.M.A. Soc. but we are pretty sure to need at least L 100. more to complete the next six months. Every day makes more clear the great need there is, at the present time for our work to be pressed to its utmost limit, as being the only available means for stemming this tide of atheism, irreligion and immorality that is coming in like a flood. We see daily increasing evidence of the baleful effects of this satanic propaganda, which is debauching the morals of the whole people, especially of the youth and young men. Our own people and those outside are more and more generally giving expression to the general feeling that our work is the only hope of the community, in this direction, at the present time. Consequently it is most important that we should have, here at the centre, as many as possible of those whose education, mental ability and spiritual power can be used to combat this terrible influence, and for this we must have a larger appropriation than the present, to enable us to meet this need. We have one man now, Rushdonian, a graduate of our orphanage and Marsovan Coll. who is doing yeoman's work in this line. He hopes to go to Scotland the coming summer and spend a couple of years in farther study, and then he would also be fitted

to take a professorship in that college which we hope to plant here before very long ! We have another man now at Harley College, London, whom we hope to welcome back here the coming summer, and for whom we have hope that he too will take a stand as a bold and able defender of the truth. But of course, this class of men can not be kept here without a salary proportioned to their abilities. Then in the villages, our men are the only ones able to do anything to keep the villagers from being led into entire irreligion and gross immorality, and it would be most unfortunate to be obliged to give up, or seriouslu curtail this branch of our work. On the other hand, we need to be able to send a better class of men into this field also. If we can not do this, we have no right to refuse to the Hulfsbund a part, at least, of our outside field, as they have asked. We do not want to play a dog-in-the-manger-game. I presume that Mr. Yarrow will report the recent short trip which he has made among the villages and the encouragement which he found. I regret that my effort to get out among the villages a fortnight ago was unsuccessful, owing to an accident in attempting to lead my horse across a frozen stream, when he pulled me back and down, inflicting a rather severe sprain of my ankle, which has kept me in the house until now, and does not give immediate promise of permitting me to use the member. I am sorry to have the work interrupted here in the city, which I had begun, viz. calling among the People evenings, at their homes. I had been to about 25 places and found the work pleasant and apparently profitable, and I had hoped to continue it thru the winter and spring. The new regime makes it possible to be out evenings now, and my work has lightened up a little, so that this plan was practicable.

I have been much interested in reading your article about Russia in the Miss Review. There is certainly much to encourage there.

With heartiest greetings from wife and self for yourself and family and all our friends at Boston, I remain

Yours most sincerely

G. C. Raynolds.

A. C. Reynolds

Van. Turkey. Jan. 23-1909.

rec'd Mar. 27-1909

Van, Feb. 19th. 1909.

My dear Dr. Barton,

I am sending you herewith the general station report, which I have just finished. I do not suppose that the report is likely to be published, but I have marked one or two passages which I would not wish to be published anyway. They are statements of what I believe to be facts, which it seemed to me the Mission and the officers of the Board ought to know, but to publish them would be to increase the enmity of the revolutionists to me, without effecting any corresponding good. It is probable that they would attempt to deny the facts, but I think I have ground for believing that they are true.

Mr. Yarrow has already sent to the rooms a statement of our financial condition. I am sure that you already realize the utter inadequacy of the appropriations which are granted to our station. Our condition is very different from that of the older stations. There the work has reached a stage where the people themselves are ready to take more and more upon themselves, while here the work has not yet reached that stage of growth. I believe that it is also true that the poverty and prostration of business are much greater here than in the more western stations. So here is a double reason why the older stations can endure the situation better than ours. During the many years since we have received any increase in our appropriations there has been a steady growth, mostly thru help rendered us from Europe, which makes it essential that our appropriations should receive a substantial increase. The educational department not only can not advance, it can not maintain its own without such increase. Matters have reached the place where you must tell us decidedly what to do. To cut down the work to the present appropriations is suicide, not to advance is shamefully to fail in following the God-given opportunities before us, and to consign the people to infidelity. What shall we do ? If we allow these present opportunities to slip thru our hands the mistake will be irremediable, the enemy will have gained the victory, and we can not hope for opportunity to renew the battle.

Now a few words more confidentially. I had hoped to be able personally to do something toward making up the deficiency in our accounts. You may know that I am now receiving a pension from the U.S. I hesitated about applying for this, tho there is no doubt that I am entitled to it under the law, but several friends on whose judgement I rely urged that it was my privelege and even duty to do so. Should our lives be prolonged beyond the working limit, we should feel that it was to be used for our daily bread, but till then I feel like using whatever of our income we do not absolutely need for running expenses for helping out the work. It was on this principle that I sent a considerable order for carriage wheels, etc. with the expectation that a part of it would be used for the station and a part for our personal use, and I had hoped that there would be something beyond for other deficits. But something happened this summer which I feel that you ought to know about, and which interferes with my calculations During Mr. Yarrow's absence to attend the mission meeting last summer, the treasury business was committed to me, and the safe was still in my room, as had been for many years. On his return, when the accounts were turned over to him again, the cash was nearly L 100. short, a circumstance which is simply unaccountable. I never kept more than a few lires in my drawer, and the safe combination no one but Mr. Yarrow and I knew. One day I was out of my room an hour or two for my classes, and when I returned I found that I had failed to lock the safe before I went out, but there was nothing in its appearance to indicate that it was not locked, and certainly no one could have known that such was the case, moreover the money was in a drawer of which I had the key. The outer door of the room was locked, and I simply can not conceive of anyone having stolen the money either then or at any other time, and I have not the slightest suspicion that any of the servants could have taken it. It is a complete mystery. Now I feel that I must make this loss good, and to do so and also pay for the order from America will require more than I have, at command, here. I have sent to my agent Mr. Colton, of Hartford, to send to Mr. Wiggin the interest on my funds in his

hands for the year 1908,but even so ,I do not think that I can make up the loss before next June,and probably not so soon,unless I should draw from the princippal of what I have in America. I want especially to inquire whether the Board would be willing that the matter should run,if necessary, till the end of the year,or whether I had better draw more from Hartford.

I think I have writen you since the injury to my foot early in Jan. I am sorry to say that I am not yet able to use my limb freely. I think there can be no doubt that a muscle in the calf of the leg was torn asunder,with considerable effusion of blood. The latter seems to have been absorbed,but the muscle is very slow in healing,and I go outside the house but very little,and do not attempt to walk off the premises. Fortunately it does not interfere with my work in my room,which is my principal business,and I can have my classes come to me here.

It is <u>paree gentan</u> now,and Mrs.Raynolds and the two young ladies are at Artemid for a few days,at the summer house.

If here,Mrs.Raynolds would join in hearty greeting to you and all our friends,and I remain

Yours most sincerely

G. C. Raynolds.

Hartford - 1908

Hon. Hartwell Carver & E. V. Dr.

E. E. Carver

Raymond

Feb. 19-1909.

Dear

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This place continues now, and Mrs. Raymond and the two young ladies are expected for a few days, at the summer house.

Mrs. Raymond would join in hearty greeting to you and all our friends. Remain

Yours most sincerely,

Rec'd APR 20 1909

Van, March 3rd. 1909.

My dear Friends,

Last week brought me a very great joy, in the shape of loving words from many friends, which I wish gratefully to acknowledge, but it will be impossible to write a separate letter to each one, and so I beg your indulgence if I send you a circular letter, with now and then a personal word as may be possible. My beloved associates, Dr. Ussher and Mr. Yarrow conceived the happy thought of presenting me, on my seventieth birth-day, a file of letters from my friends, and with indefatigable zeal and patience they succeeded in surprising me with a collection, probably even beyond their own expectations. They brought tribute from many lands, from Persia, China Africa, America, Ireland, England, Switzerland, Germany, Austria, Bulgaria, Syria and various parts of Turkey, letters laden with loving messages of cheer and courage and hope for the present and the future, as well as sweet memories of the past. There were greetings from family relatives, long unseen but not forgotten, a few survivors of my own generation, members of the second generation, themselves past middle age, and some of the third generation, all bringing assurances of loving regard. Then follow messages from many friends in Europe, with whom I have been brought into relationship through our common interest in the welfare of the Armenian people, in their suffering and their destitution. With most of these my acquaintance was through correspondence alone, until our recent visit to Europe, when so many of them received us into their homes and took us yet more fully into their hearts. Some of the kind words most highly prized were from Armenian friends, who have been with us in the past, but are now separated by oceans and continent and from others who are still with us, co-workers in the glorious service of our heavenly Master. Nearly all my surviving college classmates sent their greetings, recalling the delightful memories of college days and showing that youthful feelings are not excluded by gray hairs and waning strength, while a number of other college friends from classes above and below me join in good wishes. It was delightful too, to receive words of cheer from the officers of our beloved Board taking time from their many duties to encourage those on the firing line, and from other missionaries of our own and other Boards, in different lands, some of whom have already passed the seventieth mile-stone, some fast approaching this limit, and others younger in the service. Among the most prized the dear members of our own station circle, present and past. And then there were other personal friends, not included in any of the above classes, friends united to us by bonds welded in the distant past, but which have stood the strain of time and absence. Dear Friends all, you can hardly imagine the intense pleasure which I have enjoyed during these few days, in perusing these loving records, the only drawback being the sad consciousness, that you have so greatly idealized my virtues, if such there be, and allowed your appreciative words so very far to outrun the sober facts. The advice "Try to be what your friends think you are" is one which it behoves me to regard, and I ask your prayers that what little may remain to me of life here may be more worthily spend than I realize the past to have been.

On this anniversary occasion, I feel that I have many reasons for gratitude; one of the chiefest is that for nearly forty years my dear wife and I have been permitted to walk and work together, in the field where our youthful lot was cast, helping and cheering each other, and that so many of those whom we have been permitted to take to our hearts like our own children, are now acting worthily their parts in the work for which we have tried to fit them. For the measure of health and strength vouchsafed us we are grateful, and for the opportunities of service afforded us, that some measure of success has attended our efforts and especially that now, before the evening finally closes about us, we are permitted to see so radical a change in the condition of the land and the people for whom we labor.

And now, dear Friends, accept heartiest thanks for all the loving greetings which the post has winged to us, and continue to pray for us, that we may more worthily use the short remnant of our pilgrimage. May the dear Lord be with each one of you, in the sphere where He has placed you, granting all the happiness and success you need is the earnest prayer of

Yours most affectionately, (Signed) G.C. Raynolds.

Van, March 12th. 190

Dear Sec. Bell,

It was a real pleasure to find a letter from you among the in the file which reached me on Feb. 25th. and I was especially pleas without our ever having met, you should feel prompted to send me a me on that occasion. Your kind appreciation is most highly valued, my regret being that I am conscious of being so little worthy of it. my prayer that what little may remain of life may be more worthily than the past has been.

With grateful regards, I remain

Yours most sincerely

G. C. Reynolds.

Rec'd APR 20 1909

Van, March 12th. 1909.

My dear Dr. Barton,

Your good letter of Jan. 22nd. has come to hand, and on Feb. 25th. among a large number of letters from many and distant places, was one from yourself, which was specially valued, for it is no small thing to know that the officers of the Board feel some measure of confidence in one. Let me thank you for that letter and answer the later one at the same time.

I had sent off my annual station report before your circular of suggestion came to hand, so I had not its advice to help me. The tabular view I suppose is to be sent to the mission Sec. but perhaps, when I have a little more time, I will give you a little resumé of it to preface the report. We have been very fortunate this year in securing from friends in England and Ireland nearly enough to cover the expense of the village work for this school year, but the appropriations for the work at the centre are deficient unless a change is made in the amount sent us. Mr. Peet notified us of a change in this matter, but we can not think that it is not a mistake. He wrote that our percentage was to be increased, but this was voted by the mission on condition that the whole appropriation for the mission was increased, and I can haraly think it possible that so much is to be taken from other stations as this change now would indicate.

As to conditions here. Thru the efficient efforts of Mr. Yarrow and the preacher a Y.M.C.A. has been organized, with over 25 members, and there is a likelihood that the number will be considerably increased, and it is hoped that much good will come from the organization. We have now begun, with the intention of continuing during Lent, a lecture course, two lectures a week, on subjects suited to meet the conditions existing here, i.e. to meet the quasi arguments which these Tashnagist people are propagating against religion and morality. Two or three weeks since they had a meeting on Sunday, to talk about constitutional government, but two or three young men used the opportunity to inveigh against the church and Christianity and religion in a way which stirred up some ef the people to oppose them and quite

an excitement resulted, some of these infidel speakers were beaten, and I believe one, at least, arrested by the Govt. as having reviled God, which is a punishable offence according to Turkish law. The next Sunday they had a big meeting at one of the churches, in which the Tashnagists tried to make up with the people a little, at least to the extent of allaying the excitement among the Turks, but they do not seem to have convinced the people that any change of heart has taken place among them, and every public utterance on their part seems to diminish their prestige. So there are some things to cheer us amid the darkness.

We shall watch with eager interest the results of the campaign which is now going on to increase interest in the work of the Board, and we earnestly hope and pray that unexpected success may attend it.

I am happy to report that my sprained ankle is much better, tho not entirely well, and this week I have begun going to near houses evenings, and when the roads improve a little shall hope to make another try at the villages. I am thankful that the accident has not very much interfered with work in the house, which is my chief department now, and I have not totally lost very many days.

Mrs. Raynolds joins in hearty greetings for yourself and family and I remain

Yours most sincerely

G. C. Raynolds.

P. S. Our preacher, B. Tavit Paghchoian has just brought in a condensation of the able paper which he read on the evening of Feb. 25th. which he would be pleased to have you publish, if you think it suitable. I do not expect that you would find room for it in the Herald, but possibly you can make some use of it. I asked him to omit, as far as possible the flattering allusions to myself, but there was much in the article which I think might be useful to bring to the attention of friends at home.

G.C.R.

Pan

E. C. Raymond

Nov. 12-1909

REC'D APR 24 1909 Copy

Van, March 22nd. 1909.

My dear Dr. Ussher,

We must humbly crave your forgiveness for so long neglecting your request to start an intersessional vote, asking for a second Dr. and one or two nurses for Van. The delay has been largely due to a feeling of uncertainty regarding the question. On Sat. we had a station meeting to talk over the whole matter and I was asked to write you and tell you the feeling of the station.

There was a unanimous conviction that at least one nurse was needed. With regard to the rest of the question opinions were not so decided. We all want you to be sure that we are in full sympathy with you and the medical work. We are not sure how much of the expense of these workers you are expecting that the Board will provide for. That more workers are needed here there is no question, but how many we can hope that the Board will be able to provide for is not so clear. Already the Mission and the Board have approved of an additional man each for Erzroom and Mardin. Van certainly needs someone to tour among the villages and superintend the village workers, and it is also clear that there is a field for medical work among the villages. If these two branches could be combined it would greatly simplify the question. If a good physician and surgeon could be found, who had at the same time an earnest evangelistic spirit, and who would be able and willing to combine with medical touring the superintendence of village schools and preachers and evangelistic work, so that you two together could care for these two departments, we would feel that it is quite worth while for the Board to send such a man. Or if the salary of the second physician can be secured outside of the Board's treasury, that will quite change the situation. We do not however feel atall sure that the income of the medical department will provide for this salary, and would hesitate to bring a man here with that expectation. As you well know, the hospital department has not paid expenses for several years. Should economic conditions improve, we may hope that the hospital may run itself, but this improvement has not yet materialized, the only sign of it being a

general rise in prices. If the hospital will run itself, there will be the receipts from outside practice to care for other expenses. It is not evident how much of the general practice will hereafter fall to the American physicians, but it is probable that there will be more competition in the future than there has been in the past. So it would seem wiser to wait till it is evident that a larger income can be secured before presuming upon it. With regard to the second nurse too it was the opinion of the station that it might be better to wait till the work absolutely demanded such a helper, especially as Sister Clara indicates her intention to return. In this connection the suggestion was made that we would not wish to do anything that could possibly interfere with the Board's sending out Miss Mc Laren as soon as she is free to come, which they might feel unable to do if they were to send two nurses.

One other suggestion was made, viz. that our need of pecuniary help from the Board includes so many departments, that we would not wish it to exhaust all the means available for Van on the salaries of American workers and so be unable to furnish the buildings and equipment needed for our schools and the college now being so loudly called for.

Now as to starting an intersessional vote regarding this subject, the feeling was that as we ourselves do not yet know the definite conditions on which new workers should be asked for, i.e. how much of the expense would be asked from the Board, and the exact work to be expected from those who might come, and that it is hardly to be hoped that the mission would indorse so indefinite and which might be considered as giving Van an unduly large share of the all too meager funds which the Board has to give the mission. So it seems the wiser course for you to confer with the officers of the Board, see what outside help you can secure, etc. and send a definite statement of the whole question to the Mardin meeting, which was appointed for May 20th. and the meeting might wire its decision. If a letter can not reach the Mardin meeting, Mr. Peet might wire essential points.

I am sending a duplicate of this letter to Dr. Barton.

A word or two about the conditions now existing here. I think I have writen about an excitement over some utterences of the Nor Serkat people, the people ostensibly being eager to defend their Christian faith, but more or less of the movement was between the different revolutionist parties. New a movement has started for holding a sort of preaching service at the Norashen church on Sundays, in which some of our people are to be invited to take part, and B. Rudhdonian is to speak next Sunday. This may call off some of the attendants from our service, but will bring the truth before a larger audience

The Turkish rabble is somewhat excited at present over the shooting of a Koordish Agha in the street a fortnight ago, by an Armenian from the villageof Sorp, in revenge for this Koord's having taken away the man's wife. I hope nothing serious will come of it.

I have used my spare time during the last three weeks in getting off the circular prepared as an acknowledgement of the kind messages which came to me on my birthday, and the number of envelopes sent amounts to about 1,25, several of them containing several letters. Of course the first object is to reply to personal friends, but I hope that an interest in our work may thus be cultivated.

Mattie joins in loving greetings to all friends and I remain

Yours most sincerely

G. C. Raynolds.

Copy L. C. Raynolds Publisher

Fav- Turkey Mar. 22-1909.

Rec'd JUN 3 1909

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Van, April 30th. 1909.

My dear Dr. Barton,

I am acknowledging today several donations notified to us in the Feb. statement. Three of them are from persons in the vicinity of Boston, with whom I am not acquainted, and whose address is unknown to me, so that the only way to reach them seems to be thru the Supt. rooms. Another is from Mrs. A.C. Thompson, whom I have long esteemed as a personal friend, and to whom, in addition to a short letter, I am sending the sheets sent out on the occasion of my birthday, but even her exact address I do not know, and so I will also inclose that to you, asking you to be so kind as to forward it. The remaining donors, Mrs. Bigelow, Miss Goldthwait, Mr. Lewis and the North Amherst friend I know and will write to them directly.

Two posts ago came to hand your most welcome gift of your recent book, which is most highly prized and the reading is anticipated with keen pleasure. Do accept most hearty thanks therefor. Last post also brought your letter of inquiry concerning the influence of missions on the recent changes in this land, and I will reply later.

On returning from a short village tour at the end of March, I found a letter from Mr. Knapp saying he expected to be at Bitlis Easter Sunday and asking me to meet him there, and as it would be in vacation, and roads in this vicinity were open, I decided to go, but I found much snow near Bitlis, and the weather was constantly stormy, and as I found on arriving that Mr. Knapp had been unable to carry out his plan, I several times regretted taking the trip, but it gave me a chance to make the acquaintance of the Maynards, whom I much liked, and of seeing the Elys again, as well as of calling at one or two of our outstations, so having forgotten the discomforts of the way, I am glad I went. Word came while I was there, of the beginning of the reactionary attempt at Cons'ple. and much apprehension of trouble from the Koords was felt, but I hope they would not act without orders from Cons'ple. and as the matter has now turned, such orders are not likely to be sent. It is reported here today that the Koords have wiped out an Armenian vil-

lage in the Nor Duz diztrict of this vilayet, and the Koords of this whole region seem to be much stirred up, but I hope that they will be kept in check. It is reported this morning that our Vali is deposed, which I hope means that more efficient government is to be inaugurated.

A wire has come this morning announcing the final result of the vote for mission meeting, and that it is to begin May 20th. which will require our representatives, Mr. and Mrs. Yarrow, to start a week from today. I am glad the meeting is to materialize, for there are a good many questions which need to be discussed, but it does seem that a special appropriation for the expense of the meeting should be made, for now it has to be paid from our salaries, for station appropriations do not nearly meet the expense of running the work now in hand.

Before the massacres there was an Armenian Soc. Meatsial Ungeroo tune, which was supporting schools in this vicinity. It seems that it is now being revived, and we hear from Cons'ple. that there is a possibility that it may be willing to cooperate with us, on such principles as would make it possible for us to accept. We feel that such cooperation would prevent the appearance of our being in opposition to the nationalistic idea, would give us a prestige not otherwise attainable, and give us an influence in the educational work of the province much greater than we can hope for alone. If it could be arranged that we should have the education of candidates for teacheas in our schools it would mean very much for the maintanance of of Christian principles. Everything seems to point to the very great desirability of our being able to establish a college here before long, and to the need of greatly increased appropriations at once. We are most thankful that contributions from England have come in, sufficient to float our village work the present year, but we can not depend on this as a permanency, and our central schools are in debt.

With hearty greetings from wife and self to yourself and other friends

I remain Yours most sincerely

G. C. Raynolds.

Received Apr. 30-1909.

RECEIVED Reynolds
C. H. PATTON
JUN 12 1909

Van, May 10th. 1909.

Dear Friends,

Being desirous of knowing how it has fared with our friends in the different stations, during the last few weeks, and presuming that a similar desire may prevail among others, indeed being assured that such is the case in some instances, by a telegram from Adana, reporting the safety of the mission circle, and inquiring for our welfare, I will send out a short circular by this post.

Personally, I was at Bitlis when the recent disturbances began, and the conduct of the Koordish population there caused no small measure of disquietude among the Armenian population, but I left there before the change of Sultans took place. A postal from Miss Ely of Apr. 24th. reports quiet still prevailing, and so we trust that the crisis may be safely passed there. On my way home, I found that the Koords along the road were busy with preparations for something out of the usual, and very general fear prevailed among the Armenians everywhere. There seems no doubt that the Koords in all these regions were all ready for executing orders from Cons'ple. tho we do not know just what the expected orders were to have been, but apparently a general massacre was expected. The news of the change of Sultans put a stop to these preparations, but in Nor Duz district a prominent Koord raided an Armenian village and killed a number of people. Soodiers are said to have been sent to arrest him, but I do not yet hear of their success. This is the only outrage of importance reported in these parts. On the Friday before the change took place, the soldiers, or a part of them marched thru the street hurrahing for the Sheriat and the Sultan, but they did no harm, and the soldiers generally, as well as the Turkish rabble, were kept well in hand. Immediately after the reception by the Vali and Commander, in honor of the new Sultan, the Vali was superseded, and the acting commander made locum tenens of the Vilayet also. He is an enthusiastic Young Turk, and generally esteemed a good man. Reports have been current that the old Vali was in league with Sultan Hamid to bribe the soldiers and Koords and make ready for the proposed massacre, but I do not learn that this is confirmed. A good measure of confidence now prevails, and the present outlook for this year's crops is good, but it is, of course, too soon to prophesy about them. The spring has been cold and backward, and we had one hard frost after some of the apricot trees were blossomed, but no general injury was done I think. Everything appears very promising at present.

We are very thankful that our friends in Adana are safe, and are anxious to know just what happened there. A telegram is posted this morning saying that 15 men have been hung there and others are being examined, and that a Dr. and pecuniary help have been sent there from Con'sple. and we are very thankful that the matter seems to be being followed up so well. The telegram also says that the former Sultan has turned over his money to the Govt. and that the Persian constitution is fully confirmed.

We are all very sorry that the Mission meeting at Mardin has been vetoed by the Ambassador, as it seems especially desirable to hold such a meeting, and there are no indications of dangerous travelling in these parts. I can but hope that it may come later. We send out, with this, intersessional votes concerning a nurse and assistant physician for Van. Dr. Ussher writes that the Prud. Com. are willing they should come, provided their support can be provided outside of the Board's treasury, but it seemed to us well to ask the nurse's salary from the Board. We hope the votes will go thru and ask the Sec. to wire the result to Boston, so that Dr. Ussher may be able to act accordingly. Yours faithfully (Signed) G. C. Raynolds.

JUN 28 1909

ear Drs.Barton and Bell

Van, May 30th.1909.

The post which came in Sat.evening brought Dr.Bell's letter of r.28th.to me and a copy of that of the 27th.to Mr.Andrus,and also Dr. rton's of Apr.29th.to me. Will you permit me to acknowledge them all gether,as I have not time before this post goes out to write separately. ny thanks for all the kindly interest which your letters express,and we n not be too grateful to the dear Lord for preserving us,this time,from aring in such dreadful experiences. I have already writen you that it ems sure that similar scenes were all planned for Van,as wekl as for oth- places,and that a belated snow storm setting in that morning,delayed the ecution,and the next day the change of sultans prevented it entirely.

We watch with very great interest the weekly announcement as to progss in debt paying and money raising,and confess to some disappointment results,to date. Dr.Bell notes "That the Mission has reverted to e percentage agreed upon in 1894." We can hardly say "reverted" as none her has been used. Mr.Peet once notified us that a different percentage as to be used this year,but we felt that we could not thus take from the ready too meagre appropriations of the other stations,even tho it only rely met our needs. The new percentage was agreed upon to be put in rce when the total appropriations for the mission should be increased. o insist on it before that would be to rob the other stations. This ole matter must be settled in some way,for we can not go on this way. e appropriations for general work for our station are only about enough half cover the expenses of our work in the city alone,and the Board has ver given a cent for the village work. This year the Lord has been very od to us,and sent us from England and Ireland the sum we needed to carry t thru,but we have no promises for the future. I inclose a copy of a aper giving the Armenian view of the importance of the village work,pre-

sented by our preacher, and which I am sending out to the friends who have been supporting this village work, asking them kindly to intimate to us, in advance about what they would be willing to authorize us to expect from them for the coming year.

I am very sorry that it has not been possible for the mission to get together this spring and consult on these most important questions. We are planning to send you, before very long, a further statement of our situation, for we can not go on another year on the present basis.

This post brought us circular letters from Aintab and Cons'ple. telling us more definitely of what has been going on in those places. It is hard to understand why the Lord permitted such an apparently irreparable loss to His cause, in the C.T.Mission to occur, but we know that He doeth all things well.

With hearty greetings from wife and self to all our friends at the rooms, I remain

Yours most sincerely

G. C. Raynolds.

P.S. I supposed I had sent you a copy of B.Tavit's paper submitted at the anniversary, but lest I may be mistaken, as you write it was not received, I inclose a copy now, tho so late. I am very sorry if it was not sent before

S. C. Raynolds

Van - Turkey May 30-1909.

S C

(Copied RBP)

Rec'd JUL 10 1909

14

Van, June 9th, 1909.

My dear Dr. Barton,

The May Herald brings announcement of donations for our village work, and Mr. Peet's April statement, just in, brings the credit for it. One of these contributions I had already acknowledged, thru Dr. Ussher, assigning one of our village teachers to Mrs. Ream, but the other two have not been acknowledged till now. As I have not the full address of either of these parties, the only way I know of for reaching them is to send the letters for you to forward, which I am doing herewith. Sent N

I am most thankful to say that quiet is still maintained here in Van. The English Consul has just returned from a trip to Mosul and reports that he was attacked by Koords on the return trip, and was three hours under fire.

You may be interested to know how the atheistic and socialistic leaven is working in this community. On Ascension day the pupils of two Armenian schools, one a boys' school and one a girls' were out on the mountain for pic-nics, and the larger boys invited the larger girls to drink tea with them, after which they proposed that they all wander off on the Mt. together, but the teacher in charge of the girls did not give his consent, saying that it was unsuitable. But when he attempted to marshall the girls for the return trip, the older ones refused to go with him, but remained and came later, with the boys. As a punishment, this teacher declined to hear the lessons of these girls the next day. The girls informed the boys of this, and a day or two after, as he was passing thru the street in the afternoon, these boys set upon him and beat him with sticks and dragged him thru the street, severely injuring him. Later, these obstreperous boys and girls were expelled from their respective schools, whereupon they organized a sort of boycott, and got the older pupils of their schools and some others to withdraw from the schools. At present these two schools are

closed, and the older boys, including the graduating class, of the other high school of the Armenians, have left. As yet, I am glad to say, the influence has not reached our boys. But I am sorry to say that the female teachers of the girls' school have become so infatuated by the influences brought to bear upon them by the revolutionists, that we fear we shall have to dismiss four or five of them, at the close of this year, and we do not know where we can find the teachers we need to continue the school. We hope however, with what we missionaries can do, and the help of our preacher, that we can manage to keep it running. We feel however that it would be better to close it than to continue as we have been doing the past year.

These occurrences make it more and more evident that our work is needed and that it is being more appreciated, and emphasizes the very great importance of not merely keeping our schools running on their present basis, but of elevating and strengthening them. But to do this, we must have more money than we have been having hitherto. What is the prospect?

We are beginning to count the weeks till we can again welcome back the dear Usshers, and we hope that Miss McLaren too will be here before very long, and that Dr. Ussher will be able to push the medical work as it has not been hitherto pushed, both in the city and among the villages.

Wife joins in heartiest greetings to you and yours and to all the friends at the rooms, and I remain

Yours faithfully

G. C. Raynolds.

Letter to Van Fleet
9-1929

Rec'd AUG 14 1909

215.

See Miss Williams

Van, July 15th. 1909.

My dear Dr. Barton,

I am inclosing letters which I have prepared today, in response to donations for our village evangelical work, as reported in the June Herald. As definite addresses are not given, the only way which I see for reaching the parties is to send to the rooms, and I presume that you have means of sending to them. The paper of which I send three copies, you are of course at liberty to read, and if you desire to make any other use of it, you can, of course, do so. I suppose I am correct in saying that we have your approval in asking for specials for this work. I suppose too that it is your desire and purpose to include this branch in the portion for which you especially care, and it is possible that the presentation in this paper will help the Prudential Committee to reach a decision to so increase the appropriations for the F.T.M. that the growing Van work may be provided for.

Our school year closed successfully at the end of June, and ours was the only school that was able to graduate a class. The "Nor Serunt" movement assumed such proportions as practically to break up one of the high schools of the Armenians and stampede the graduating class of the other, this "Rising Generation" having severely beaten one of the teachers in the street, and boycotted the schools. Everything points to the supreme importance of pushing our schools, raising their grade, and establishing a Christian college, just as soon as possible. This seems to be the only way to combat the direct and positive irreligion which is making itself so blatant and is so debauching the community. Of course, this can only be effected by securing a higher grade of teachers, and these can only be obtained by giving salaries equivelent to those the same persons can obtain in other parts of the country. And so the expense of this central work must increase faster than the increase in receipts from tuition can provide for them. There has been increase from tuition the present year, and we have good reason to expect still greater increase with each successive year, but increased appropriations will still be essential.

The past year in the boys' school has been a delightful one, in pleasant contrast to the two preceeding ones, when revolutionary influence was so deleterious. In the girls' school however, revolutionary influences have taken their turn this year, especially influencing the female teachers, two of whom we have felt obliged to dismiss at the close of the year, and these the two oldest and most capable. Their deleterious influence on the younger teachers was so great, that we feared it would be necessary to send away two or three of them also, but very plain dealing with them gives us some hope that we may be able to keep two of them at least. Two of the boys' school teachers have gone away for farther education, so that we need to bring in two or three outside teachers to take their places, and how we shall succeed in effecting this remains to be seen.

For the first time since the orphanage was founded, we have closed it for the summer vacation, and this gives us missionaries a little more complete vacation than has been previously possible. At present, I am the only member of the station at home, Mrs. R. having gone to our summer house, and the rest being off for a fortnight's cruise on the lake, with excursion to Bitlis and Nimroud Dagh.

Today I have been out to welcome the new Vali, who makes a very pleasant first impression, and is well spoken of by those who know him.

We are congratulating ourselves that the dear Usshers are about starting now, and Oh ! how glad we shall be to see them again. We should be still more glad if Miss McLaren should come with them.

With loving greetings from us both to you and yours, I remain

Yours most sincerely

G. C. Raynolds.

E. G. Reynolds

Van Turkey. July 15-1909.

Van, July 15th. 1909.

Miss White and Friend, Kansas City, Mo.

The June Herald reports a contribution from you for evangelistic work, care Dr. C. D. Usshe r, which has reached us duly, and in Dr. Usshe r'd absence, it falls to me to acknowledge the same and express the thanks of the station therefor. I also inclose you a copy of a paper I have prepared, giving a statement regarding the work to which you have so kindly contributed, which I hope may interest you. As I am not informed of your exact address, I send this to Dr. Barton, to be forwarded to you, and I am

Yours most sincerely

G. C. Raynolds.

Van, July 15th. 1909.

Dear Friend,

I write to thank you for the donation you have so kindly made to our station, for carrying forward the Village Evangelical work, as notified to us thru the Missionary Herald for June, and inasmuch as you have thus expressed an interest in this work, it seems desirable that I should give you a little information concerning the past history and present status of this branch of our work.

The missionary work in Van began in the year 1872, but during the first twenty five years, while much effort was put forth to introduce the Gospel leaven among the village population of the province, which resulted in a somewhat extensive sale of the Scriptures, and more or less general enlightenment, with the temporary establishment of several local centres for Christian effort, yet the hostility of the Armenian ecclesiastics, combined with the repressive policy of the Turkish Government, prevented the permanent establishment of Protestant communities, in more than two or three village communities. At about this date, the American Board adopted the plan of notifying the different missions, in advance, of the limit beyond which they could not promise them appropriations for carrying on their work, and this mission, at its annual meeting, apportioned the sum thus promised, among the different stations of the mission, according to the best estimate it was able to make of the comparative demands of the work in them, as being then carried on. Van, as being the youngest station, with its village work largely undeveloped, received a comparatively small percentage of this apportionment, with the expectation that, as its work enlarged, the Board would be able to increase its appropriation therefor. But as the years have passed, the contributions of the home churches have not kept pace with the natural growth of the Board's work, and the opening of new fields has so absorbed the increase that has been secured, that the Prudential Committee have found it impracticable to increase its limit of appropriations for this mission. Once during this period, the older stations, seeing the growth of the Van

work and the consequent proportional increase of its demands, have generously given up a part of their percent, to increase that of the Van field. But the growth of the evangelical and educational work in Van city itself, which constitutes the necessary foundation for growth outside has been more than enough to absorb the slight increase thus secured, while the prevailing poverty has prevented the people from wholly making up this deficiency. Consequently there has still been no appropriation available for village schools and preachers. In the mean time however, unexpected openings have presented for effort in the outlying regions. The massacres of 1895 - 6 occasioned the establishment of an Orphanage here, in which children of promise were gathered, and the movement enlisted the sympathy even of the Armenian ecclesiastics. As boys began to go out from the Orphanage, capable of engaging in educational effort in the villages, and ready to do so, the ecclesiastics began to see that here was being prepared an instrumentallit. which might be made most useful for their people, and seeing that the propagande which we were pressing, was not primarily a Protestant one, but a Christian one, they consented to the inauguration of a joint effort for the establishment of schools in the villages. Here then was the opening and the instrument for improving it, but where were the funds without which it could not become available? It was useless to ask the funds from the Board, because the churches were not sufficiently filling their treasury. But as boys were thus ready to leave the orphanage, some of the patrons, who had supported them while here, were so interested in them and in the people of this province, that they were willing to continue the contributions which them had been making for their education, so as to enable them to make the knowledge which they themselves had received available to educate their yet more ignorant and needy fellows, who had remained in their villages. And so came into being the first village schools of this new class. The work has grown gradually, and three years ago, the German friends took a share in the work, to the extent of about £ 150. equals £ 600.00, but this Society has now withdrawn from the work, and while we hope that the European patrons may continue their own share, we are not sure that they will

make up the loss from the German withdrawal, and hence we are anxious to secure patrons for this part of the expense, and you can hardly understand how very grateful we are to you for the interest you are now taking, in consequence, as we suppose, of the presentation of the subject by our beloved associate, Dr. Ussher.

The coming in of the new regime in Turkey, instead of in any measure diminishing the importance of this branch of our effort, has greatly enhanced it, both because a more hopeful future is opening before the country, and especially because a class of revolutionary agitators are using the new freedom to introduce an active propaganda of atheism, deism, socialism and immorality, which is debauching the Armenian people, and especially the rising generation. The only efficient instrumentality for starting a counter current, against this demoralizing influence, is to be found in the Protestant movement, which we represent. We are trying to strengthen this influence in the city centre, by improving the grade of our central schools, while keeping up their full moral and religious tone. At the same time, we are striving to increase the number and influence of these village schools, each of which is not merely n educational centre, but an evangelizing agency. Until the American Board is able to assume the full, direct supervision of this branch, it authorizes us to seek its support, where it will not interfere with the regular income of the Board, but after reaching that point, it will doubtless be a real pleasure to the Board, and certainly so to us, if present patrons continue their contributions directly to the Board's treasury, as regular instead of special contributions.

With renewed thanks for your kind interest, and begging that your earnest prayers may accompany your gifts, I remain, in behalf of Van Station,

Yours most sincerely

G. C. Raynolds.

E. C. Raymond

Van Turkey - July 15-1909.

Circular Letter

Rec'd OCT 23 1909

Van, Sep. 27th. 1909.

Dear Dr. Barton and Dr. Bell,

I am ashamed that so long a time has elapsed since I have writen to the rooms, and indeed it is hard for me to believe that I have not writen since the end of June, which is the last date I find in my record, and I am inclined to think that a circular letter may have gone to the rooms, telling of a tour among the villages, in August, tho I am not quite sure. I have before me Dr. Barton's letter addressed to Mr. Andrus, of June 16th., one from the same to me dated July 14th. and one from Dr. Bell dated Aug. 18th. for all of which please accept very many thanks.

I feel that I ought to write rather more fully about our village work, that I have done hitherto, that you may rejoice with us over the kind friends whom the Lord has raised up for us, and decide whether you wish to make any official acknowledgement of their kindness, to them. We are undertaking village work for the coming year, which will demand of us, in addition to what the people themselves pay, about L 350.00, besides L 48.00 for the city schools, i.e. those in the walled city, and we have the money promised for this object. Ls 200.00 comes from our dear and most generous friend, Basil Orpin, Esq. 47 St. Steven's Green, E., Dublin, Ireland. Another Ls 150.00 comes from our long time and most faithful friends, the Mayo Sisters, address Miss Agnes M. Mayo, The Lodge, Westwood Park, Southampton, England. These dear, good friends became interested in our orphanage work long ago, and have broadened and deepened their interest to take in this village work, as their former proteges in the orphanage have gone into teaching work in the villages. Of course we do not know how long they will feel like continuing this support, but at least for this year it is pledged, and there is some money which has been sent from America for the same object, so that we fully expect to be able to swing this amount during the school year now beginning. Before long we shall try to get out a report of this department, especially for these patrons, and we will see that you also have copies. It seems to us that it would be very suitable for you friends to write to these generous donors, express-

ing the appreciation, which I am sure that you will feel, for this most generous support of a branch of the work which the Board has not felt able to take up directly. Whether they would prefer to have their contributions acknowledged as to the Board, or whether they might prefer to consider it as rather a special work of their own, I have not asked them. That they are in the fullest sympathy with the work of the Board, there is no doubt. Possibly the best way might be for you to write to them unofficially, and inquire whether they would like to have it acknowledged in the Herald, or not. I saw all of these friends when in Europe four years ago, and I hope that Dr. Ussher has been able to see Mr. Orpin at least, as he passed thru Dublin.

I do not know what other members of the station may have writen you about troubles in the girls' school, last year, because of the sympathy of two of the older female teachers with the Tashnagists, but we were very much troubled by this last year, especially as they managed to carry away with them several of the younger teachers. At the close of the school year we informed the two above mentioned, that there would be no work for them next year, but carefully avoided giving any reason for our action to them, or to others. But the Tashnagists took up the matter, and tried to persuade the older pupils of the girls' school to withdraw from our school, and we did not know how much effect the effort might produce, but are glad to find that not a person has left the schools on this account, while new pupils have come, about as many as our present accommodations will provide for. This makes more and more apparent the absolute inadequacy and unsuitableness of our present buildings, and emphasizes the absolute necessity of increasing these accommodations and improving their character, as can only be done by erecting new buildings. Moreover, the necessity of more land for providing for the two schools is emphasized. I think you have the plot of our grounds, an examination of which will show their inadequacy. A lot adjoining us on the north seems a necessity for the proper placing of these new buildings, and there is hope,

Needs of Girls' School

that just now, the owners of this property, being rather hard up, will sell the property, while its value is likely to constantly increase, so that we are very, very anxious to secure it at the present time.

You will be naturally desirous of knowing whether the encouraging condition of the educational department of the work stands alone, or if the other departments are equally hopeful. You have known something of the condition of our church work, and are aware that the membership of the church does not increase very fast. We have reported that a section of our people, including some of the church members, have been advocating the giving up of the separate church organization, or at least the refusing to receive new members, arguing that the real evangelicl element in the city would be thus strengthened. I am glad to say that we do not hear much of this sort of talk now, some of those who were active in that line having gone away, or practically withdrawn from connection with us, while the larger portion have come to feel that such a demand was unwise. At the same time, it is true that new members have not been coming in, tho there is a pretty large number for whom we feel that we have reason to believe that their names are writen in the Lamb's Book of Life. This class includes the teachers in both schools, as well as a large number of outsiders. At present there are two societies of young men, both of which demand conversion as a condition of membership, but among whom there are now very few who are members of our church. Yesterday was a holiday, and we improved the opportunity to hold a sort of church pic-nic, to which the members of these two societies were invited as guests, the object being to promote acquaintance and good feeling among these followers of Jesus. We were favored with an ideal autumn day, and had the gathering in a vineyard, not far away, and we have reason to believe that the above object was effected. One of these societies is the regular Y.M.C.A. formed since the visit of Mr. Chambers last fall, and it has already nearly 40 members and seems to be accomplishing much good. The other society is of longer standing, and was formed for purposes similar to those of the Y.M.C.A. but prefered not to give up its separate organization

when the Y.M.C.A.was formed. It has endeavored to keep itself somewhat more separate from the Protestant community,as believing it could accomplish more for the nation by so doing,but yet it is not hostile to us. Now,here are two definite organizations,with a membership of from 70 to 80,regarding which we have reasonable hope that they are renewed Christians,and active,working Christians;but who do not figure in our reports because not members of our church. It may not an over-estimate to consider that there is an equal number outside of these organizations who are also converted men and women,and this will show that our annual statistical tables can not give an adequate impression of the extent of the influence which has been and is being exerted on the community about us.

Whether these elements will ever reach the point where they will be willing to throw in their lot with us,only time will show. We can not even deny that there are some arguments which we must consider valid on the side of those who do not favor such union. Still I think we missionaries feel that,on the whole,it would be better for them to come into the church. Certainly we have no doubt that a united effort would be more fruitful than divided work.

If we seek to form an estimate of the total fruit which has come of our work here,in the form of saved souls,we need to remember that a very large number of orphans and others have been under the influence of our schools and preaching,who have now been scattered to the four quarters of the earth. Among these we have reason to hope that a considerable percentage have yielded their lives to the Savior. Such considerations as these serve to encourage us to believe that,tho we can not be satisfied with the fruit of these 37 years of labor,still it has by no means been in vain.

With hearty greetings for you both and your families and other of our friends whom you may see,from Mrs.Raynolds and self,I remain

Yours most sincerely G. C. Raynolds

We are hoping to see the Ussher party on Saturday.

Rec'd Feb 27-1909

Rec'd OCT 23 1909

/6

Van, Sep. 29th. 1909.

Dear Drs. Barton and Bell,

Yesterday's post brought your circular letter of Aug. 27th. referring to various questions of interest, for which I would express my thanks. I think I will add a word to what I have previously writen, touching on different points in the circular. And first let me say that we here certainly have no thought that there is any possible lack of sympathy with our works and our needs, even tho we do keep presenting them. We know well that you would be only too glad to give us all we want, but we think you are glad to have us present the case, from time to time, so that you may keeo the matter before the churches, this being the most hopeful way of securing what you and we desire and need.

Regarding language examinations, I fear that I have been remiss in seeing that our new comers are tested in this way. I have been satisfied that they were faithfully studying and making good progress, and it has seemed to me a rather delicate matter to propose an examination of missionaries by Armenians, as it would of course have to be to be of any value. Do you really feel that this is essential, and do you particularly direct that such an examination should be held here? I believe that all our associates are conscientiously pressing their study of the language, and it seems as if adult, faithful Christian missionaries hardly needed to be subjected to methods which are needed in schools.

With regard to "Institutional Work" we feel that it is important to consider the question as to whether we are neglecting the most important for a less important end. The orphanage and relief work have certainly taken a large share of our time during the last dozen years, and we have often grudged the time thus spent and taken from more direct work for souls. At the same time, it certainly has seemed as if Providence put this work in our hands, and that we could not avoid performing it without unfaithfulness. We feel assured also that the time and money thus expended have not been unfruitful in bringing immortal souls into the Redeemer's Kingdom. I think it is at least doubtful whether any other

form of work was available, which would have brought larger fruitage even in this special line. At the same time, we are glad to feel that we may now soon lay down this particular department, and we pray that circumstances may not occur in the future which shall compel us to consider the necessity of resuming such effort. With regard to our educational department, I at least feel that this is the very most hopeful line in which directly evangelistic labor can be applied. It is the rising generation which can be hopefully reached, and the way in which we can reach this cla is by getting them into our schools. In this way also we gain admission to families over which we could not otherwise exert an influence. Both in Van itself and in the villages, it seems to me that the educational department is rather a part of the evangelistic department than one which in any way hinders work for souls.

In the matter of correspondence I hope that I have not made mistakes in the lines indicated.

Again I would express thanks for the kind circular, and would beg you to give personal suggestions wherever you feel desirable.

I am again

Yours most sincerely

S. C. Raynolds.

Van — Turkey
Sept. 29, 1909.

OCT 28 1909

Copy.

Van, Sep. 29th. 1909.

My dear Mr. Knapp,

Yesterday's post brought your letter of Aug. 25th. telling of the departure of your dear Mother, and we have read it with great interest. We are so thankful that you were permitted to reach her while she was able to visit with you for so long, and we can but be thankful that she was then released from the extreme suffering, which was her lot for so long. It is indeed hard to understand why this trial was added to the many which she had been called to endure, but the dear Lord knows best, and now we are sure that she is forever at rest, with her dear husband and all the other dear ones who have gone before, in the presence of the Savior whom she loved and whom she had served so long and faithfully.

You will not wonder that Mrs. Raynolds and I feel a very personal sense of bereavement in her departure. During a large portion of our missionary life we were more or less closely associated with her, during our summer together, on the Bitlis mountain, during the following winter in our common domicile, at Van, and during the subsequent years of her residence in Bitlis, in a less intimate, but always most agreable association. Visits to Bitlis were always anticipated with great pleasure, and the realization never came short of the anticipation. So I feel that there were not very many who were priveleged to know your mother more intimately than I, and I am glad to testify to her noble and earnest Christian character. Her mental ability was decidedly above the average, as was also her physical endurance, while her winning manner, her unselfish interest in the well being of all about her, her patience under the trying circumstances by which she was often surrounded, her earnest and efficient methods of Christian work for the people for whom she came to labor, all endeared her to her associates, and to the Armenians, so that there were few if any who held a higher place in the esteem of all. Her excellent judgement regarding all questions, of missionary policy, or of individual welfare helped to render her opinion most highly regarded, and constantly sought by her associates and by the people. We all felt that it was a great

loss to the station and the mission,when she was obliged to return to America. But her interest in the work by no means ceased,because she was no longer present in the body,and we are sure that her prayers for it never ceased,while she was in the body,and may we not believe that they are even more fervent and constant,now that she can understand so much better many things which are mysterious to us?

You and Herbert and your dear sisters have very much reason to thank the Lord for the devoted Christian parents whom He granted to you,and I am glad that three of you could be with her during the last weeks,and we are thankful for the news which re ently came regarding dear Herbert's recent Christian experiences. We are,of course,most glad and thankful that Grace is able to return to Bitlis,to comfort and help the Misses Ely,and we shall hope for the privelege of seeing her again before very long. We shall pray that she may have a safe journey out,and should be glad,should she conclude to come by the Tiflis route,to meet her at the border and help her on her way to her destination.

We are very glad that you are going to be able to visit Herbert,and incidentally to visit the Seattle exposition,and we wish you the best of success,yourself and your family,during your vacation,and in due time a successful return to the work which needs you at Harpoot.

Mrs.Raynolds joins me in affectionate sympathy and loving greetings for yourself and Herbert,Grace and Edith and for your own family,and I am

Yours most affectionately G. C. Raynolds

Dear Dr.Barton,I venture to send this copy of a letter to Mr.Knapp thinking you may possible care to see what I have writen.

Copy - E. G. Reynolds to Rev. Chas. H. Parr -

Dec. 29-1909

Van, Turkey in Asia, Oct. 27th. 1909.

Dear Friend,

Three times during the last few months, letters have come to me ring inquiries concerning Nestorian swindlers, who are operating in the .S. and Canada. Personally I know a good deal about this class of peo-e, and am very desirous to do what I may to put a stop to their depreda-ons, but as my work is for the Armenians and not the Nestorians, I am not a way to get at the exact facts needed to nail them. I have accor-ngly asked the Rev. W. A. Wigram, the head of the Archbishop of Canterbury's ssion, if he would make out a statement, from facts with which he is per-nally familiar, which might be sent out as an answer to the inquiries hich have come thru Consul Jewett, from the U.S. Govt. and thru Mr. W. W. et from the Canadian Govt. Mr. Wigram has kindly prepared a statement hich seems to me and my associates of Van station eminently correct and lightening, and it seems to us desirable that it should receive a wider rculation than might come from being sent to the governmental inquirers venture therefore, to send a copy to yourself and to a few other repre-ntative individuals in the U.S. asking that, if you deem it wise and de-rable, you take measures to get the statement published, in whole or in rt, by religious or secular journals, in such a way as to give general rculation to the facts, and make it inexcusable for any one to be taken by these swindlers. I am sending copies direct to the following. cretaries of A.B.C.F.M.; of The Foreign Mission Board of Pres. Ch.; of the angelical Lutheran Ch; to the Chicago Advance; The N.Y. Observer; To The ssionary Review; The Springfield Republican; to District Secs. Am. Bd. at w York, Chicago and California; and to Dr. A. P. Schauffler, United Charities .Y. I feel as if it was due to the Christian public to make n effort to put a stop to this traffic.

I remain Yours most sincerely
G. C. Raynolds

Rec'd NOV 26 1909

ack'd 51/6

Van, Oct. 27th. 1909.

My dear Dr. Barton,

The inclosed letters will explain themselves. I do not kno how you will regard the question, but fancy you will feel that it is d rable to do what we can to head off this business. I think it may b well to let the Secs. of other mission societies see the paper. I se to the Lutherans because they wrote asking for information some time

We hope that the Annual Meeting may have passed off successfull and we shall be glad to get reports of the same. I hope that no de has remained this year, and if finances are in such a condition as to mit an appropriation for our school buildings, how glad we shall be.

With hearty greetings from wife and self to yourself and family our other friends at the rooms, I remain

Yours most sincerely

G. C. Raynolds

Van - Turkey - Oct. 27-1909.

Rec'd NOV 26 1909

Copy.

The English Mission, Van, Turkey.

Oct. 27th. 1909.

Wilo Jewett, Esq. The American Consulate, Trebizond.

Dear Sir,

Dr. Raynolds has handed me the letter that you wrote to him on Oct. 13th. 1909, asking for information concerning "Mar Sergius, Bishop of the Chaldeans, of Martha, Jello, Kurdistan," and "Deacon Simeon Daniels," said to have been authorized by the said Mar Sergius to collect subscriptions for the church in question.

I. Mar Sergius, (The title is used indiferently for Bishop or saint and literally means "Lord",) is undoubtedly a bishop of the church called "Assyrian", Nestorian", or "Chaldean", whose members are found for the most part in the district known as Kurdistan. Locally, the last of the three names is confined to those Christians of the "melet" in question, who are in communion with Roman Catholics, but Mar Sergius is not one of that branch, but of the older independent church. He resides at a place properly called "Ata Mar Zeia", (village of St. Zeia,) and colloquially "Ata", in the Mt. district of Jilu, Hakkiari. The nearest centre of government is Julamerk distant one day's journey, but there is little law or order of any kind in the didtrict. The age of the bishop is about 23 years.

II. The letters. This bishop does often give letters, commending the bearer to the caritable and giving him more or less of authority to collect "for the church", in the countries to which he goes. The bearers represent themselves as collecting for church-buildings, schools, orphanages, etc. In no case have I ever known any of the money given to be spent on anything but the benefit of the collector himself, nor could the Patriarch of the Church, (who is known as Mar Shimun, and who resides at Julamerk,) tell of such a case. All churches in the region Jilu are ancient; there are no orphanages, and such schools as exist are the property of foreign

missions. The men who go out thus collect simply for themselves, tho the Bishop in question may so far forget himself as to accept a small share of the plunder.

The Patriarch has made efforts to stop this plunder, both because of the scandal, and because he knows that the money given thus would suffice to supply all the schools, etc. which his church needs, if it were spent for the purposes for which it was given. He has sent letters to the government of India, authorizing the prosecution of any who collect in his name, and he would no doubt do the same for the American government, if requested. He has not however been ability hitherto to control his colleague.

There are, of course, excuses for those who practice this traffic 1st. The utter poverty in which the people and the bishop exist, which makes them willing to adopt any means of earning money. 2nd. The fact that for generations, neither property nor life has had any sanctity in the country, and these men only collect contributions with a letter, instead of with a gun. There is no very clear distinction between robbery and swindling, and in this country, robbery is, and always has been fair game. 3rd. The folly of those, in every country, who have apparently more charity than brains. A man in utter poverty knows that by going to America and "pitching a yarn" that he would not expect to be taken seriously in his own land, he can collect $3 000. which is a fortune here, and live well meanwhile. It will be seen that the temptation to take advantage of the criminal folly of those who trust these oriental wanderers as they would never dream of trusting their own countrymen is very great. If people in America or elsewhere wish to help the individuals who come to them, there is no more to be said, for their personal need is often real enough. If however they wish, as is usually the case, to help the church, then let them give their contributions, "earmarked" for any purpose they wish, to some one of the missions at work in the land, and they will have some se-

curity that the money will be expended for the purpose for which it is given. If the collector objects to this course, he thereby confesses himself a fraud. These Missions are 1. American. The Presbyterian Mission at Urmi, Persia, and the Congregational Mission at Van, Turkey. 2. English. The English Church Mission (Archbishop of Canterbury's Assyrian Mission") at Urmi and Van. 3. French. The Lazarist Fathers at Urmi, and the Dominicans at Van. 4. Russian. The "Orthodox" Church mission at Urmi. One or other of these will suit most religious idiosyncrasies.

I doubt if prosecution of the "collectors", frauds tho they usually are, would be of any use, for two reasons. A. The letters which they show are usually genuine, tho used with fraudulent intent. B. Imprisonment is no deterrent to these men, seeing that the prisons of any civilized land give board and lodging far superior to any that they can get at home, and conviction is no disgrace, in a land where it usually affords a presumption of innocence, and only proves that the defendant did not bribe! Confiscation of the letters, and money, if possible, and deportation of the bearers as "undesirable aliens", is preferable, if it is possible by American, as it is by English law. What is needed for the abating of a custom that is at once a scandal and a nuisance, is that the charitable should be more careful in their giving. While their carelessness makes a low form of swindling easy and profitable, poor men will swindle. I do not defend Mar Sergius nor his collectors, but I do not think the fault entirely on their side.

I inclose a translation of the letter you send to Dr. Raynolds; I do not know the man, nor do I know the "Stephen George, Fake-priest", whose photograph sent by the Canadian government, has also been forwarded from Constantinople. He appears in it dressed as a European, shaven and washed, while in his own country it is not likely he would often be seen in any one of those conditions, and hence is difficult to recognize. No doubt

all three are "Collectors" of the type described above.

A word upon my personal position. I am one of a small band of English clergy, sent by the Archbp. of Canterbury, England, to work under the Patriarch of the "Assyrian", "Nestorian", or "Chaldean" Church, for the education of their clergy. I am well acquainted with all the Bishops of the Church, and believe that most of them are disgusted at the scandal, and desirous to abate it. It must be remembered ~~however~~, that for some generations the lesson has been well rooted into the oriental, that "Franks" are made of money, and are "fair game". Steps are being taken to put a stop to this traffic in India, and I hope that will be the case also in America.

I remain, Sir, yours very sincerely, (Signed) W.A. Wigram

Head of the Mission of the Archb. of Canterbury

Translation of Syriac letter forwarded from America.

Shamasha (J.H. Benson) Shlimun son of Babana, Village of Tibu, Turkey, and Sh. Nimrud, son of Tawir, and Sh. Simeon, son of Daniel, say this; Sh. Shlimun is now in the house of the Quasia (priest) of Kangirrish, and he says to us there are six Quasias come to my house with a letter from the Bishop. May be it known to you, Mar Sergius, that this Quasia is writing to you to see whether you sent us. Two lines in the English language for these two deacons, for me and for him, please send them quickly without fail. Farewell in peace from Sh. Simeon Daniel, and Sh. Nimrud Tawir.

Explanation of the above. Sh. Shlimun and Co. as I judge, came to the house of the "Quasia" or Clergyman, of the place which they call Kangergish.

"Quasia" in question is presumably the Rev. F.W. Stevens, and Kangergish the Syrian version of the name of his township. Mr. Stevens said to them, "you are the sixth lot of fellows that have come to me to beg in this fashion; I shall write to your Bishop, and ask whether you are genuine or not." Shlimun (Solomon) then writes himself to the Bishop, asking that "two lines in the English language" may be sent to him at once, to prove that he has really been sent out with the episcopal authorization.

Copy to Reynolds Oct. 27-1909.

13

Rec'd DEC 2 1909

Personal proposition re College at Van

Van, Nov. 23rd. 1909.

My dear Dr. Barton,

I feel like writing to you today about a plan that has been shaping itself in my mind for the last few days, to ask your opinion and advice about it. As you know, we Van missionaries and the Van people, have been feeling, for some time, that it was time that the educational work of this station should culminate in the foundation of a college here. At the celebration of the seventieth anniversary of my birth last Feb, this desire of the people was given a prominent place, and we, on our part, made known the fact that we were as desirous as were they to see such an institution founded here. It has seemed however to be so big a business to get it started that we have not felt it possible to look for its realization for several years yet. The people here are quite enthusiastic on the subject, and are talking of starting a subscription at once for raising funds, and some of them express the hope that not less than L 500. may be secured here now. My feeling is that if the land and the first building were to materialize, it would so set the ball rolling, that the endowment needed for running expenses might hopefully be soon provided. The hardest step seems to be the first one.

Now the thought that has come to me, and of which my wife approves, is this. To donate the funds which I now have invested in America to this object, somewhat on the plan which the Board encourages, and calls, I believe the endowment plan, i.e. donate with the provizo that an income should come to us, if we need it, while we are alive. The purpose we have had in allowing this money to accumulate is to provide for our living after we may become unable longer to earn a salary from the Board, and then we have wished to see it go to some branch of the work in which we have been interested here in Van. I do not know just how much could be now realized from these investments, but perhaps $ 6 000. at least. Now the interest of

this sum at 5% would not be sufficient to support us, and we might be obliged to draw on the principal, but it may hopefully be some years before we shall come to the place where we should need it, and if the college can have the free use of it during those few years, it might be willing to pay us a somewhat larger % during the few following years. Ten % of this sum, with the pension we are receiving, would give us something more than $ 2.00 per day, on which we might be able to live. $ 6 000. would equal L 1363., Dr. Ussher speaks of $ 1 000. which he knows of as available, and this would add L 227., and if the people here should raise L 500., it would bring the sum to L 2090. We feel pretty sure that a suitable site can be secured for L 1 000., and the first building be erected for another L 1 000., and so the enterprise might be launched. I have strong hope that once started thus, friends of ours in England would be willing to subscribe sufficient to provide for the salary of one or two professors, and so the first stage be provided for. We understand, in various ways, that there is more or less talk of trying to start a college here by the Armenians, and if this were done, such an institution would probably be at best, a non-religious institution, and it is exceedingly important that the college to be founded here should be founded on the Rock of Ages, and first, last and all the time, exert a positively religious influence. To allow a different institution to preempt the ground here would be a very great pity, while there may be hope that our institution once inaugurated, might draw to itself the subscriptions which would otherwise go to the different institution. These considerations lead me to feel that it is extremely desirable to start this ball rolling at once, and so far as I can now see I am willing to do what I have indicated above. But before taking any positive step, I desire to ask your opinion of the propriety and wisdom of the step, and your advice as to preparations to be made for the founding

of such an institution. If you approve of the plan, and are willing that we should thus attempt to start it, what would you advise as to the method of founding it? I think the other colleges in this land have boards of trustees in America, and are chartered in that country, under its laws, so that investments may be more secure. Under the old Turkish regime this was certainly necessary, and I presume the same method is still desirable. If so, what steps should be taken to secure trustees and a charter? Also what steps need to be taken in this country to insure the successful and safe foundation of such a college? I think I will send this letter thru Mr. Peet, asking him to read it before forwarding, so as to make any suggestions which may occur to him, either to you or to us, in view of his acquaintance with the situation in Turkey.

We are very much encouraged by the financial condition of the Board, as reported at the annual meeting, and by the plans outlined to increase the income of the Board, especially that needed for educational work, and we hope ere long to learn that the Prud. Com. have seen their way to grant the appropriation asked for and approved by them, for our boys' school building. We are hoping to secure the lot we need for this purpose, adjoining our present premises, what seems to us the ideal site, and so near the church as to furnish the rooms for week-day meetings, S.S. classes, etc which are almost essential to the welfare of the church, without additional expense to the church. We pray that the Lord may guide you and us aright in all the work we are trying to do for Him, and make our efforts to tell to the utmost for the progress of His Kingdom.

With warmest greetings from us both

Yours most sincerely

G. C. Raynolds.

George V. Raynolds

Van-Turkey. Nov. 23-1909.

Van Colleg

Rec'd JAN 4 1910

Van, Dec. 6th. 1909.

My dear Dr. Barton,

Your circular letter of inquiry concerning the desirability of a conference of representatives of the Board from America, and missionaries laboring in Turkey, which was forwarded by Dr. Bell in his letter of Oct. 5th. has been too long neglected. The members of the station talked over the matter last evening, and requested me to inform you that it is their unanimous opinion that such a conference is most desirable, and greatly needed, in view of the changed conditions in this land, and we all hope that it may materialize. Dr. Ussher suggested that possibly it might be practicable to hold it soon after the World Missionary Conference, at Edinboro, next June, when some of the delegates to that gathering might be able to continue their journey to Turkey, and bring some of the enthusiasm of that gathering, to cheer and strengthen those who might assemble to meet them. That season of the year would seem to be a favorable one for holding such a gathering, travelling being easy, and it being the vacation time for the educational institutions. Others suggested that those who would have preparation to make for the Centennial of the Board would not be able to give the time then, nd this especially might make it impossible for yourself or the other secretaries to come, which would be a destinct loss to such a conference. It was also thought that there was force in the suggestion of your letter, that the conference might be of more avail after the attitude of the new government toward our work and its general spirit and power should become more apparent.

All that we can say at present seems to be, that we all feel the very great desirability of such a gathering, and sincerely hope that it may be held at such time and place as Providence may dictate.

In behalf of the station,

Yours most sincerely

G. C. Raynolds.

Van,Dec.6th.1909.

My dear Dr.Barton,

Your circular letter of inquiry concerning the desirability of a conference of representatives of the Board from America,and missionaries laboring in Turkey,which was forwarded by Dr.Zeigler in his letter of Oct.5th,has been too long neglected. The members of the station talked over the matter last evening,and requested me to inform you that it is their unanimous opinion that such a conference is most desirable,and greatly needed,in view of the changed conditions in this land,and we all hope that it may materialize. Dr.Dasher suggested that possibly it might be practicable to hold it soon after the World Missionary Conference at Edinburg,next June,when some of the delegates to that authority might be able to continue their journey to Turkey,and bring some of the enthusiasm of that gathering,to cheer and strengthen those who might assemble to meet them. That season of the year would seem to be a favorable one for holding such a gathering,travelling being easy,and to bring the vacation time for the educational institutions. Others suggested that those who would have preparation to make for the Conventions of the area would not be able to give the time then,and this especially might make it impossible for yourself or the other secretaries to come,which would be a distinct loss to such a conference. It was also thought that there was force in the suggestion of your letter,that the conference might be of more avail after the attitude of the new government toward our work and its general spirit and power should become more apparent.

All that we can say at present seems to be,that we all feel the very great desirability of such a gathering,and sincerely hope that it may be held at such time and place as Providence may dictate.

In behalf of the station,

Yours most sincerely

Van-Turkey
Dec. 6-1909.
Misc.
Gulbenkian

Rec'd JAN 4 1910

Dec 8-1909

Dec 8th. You may be interested to know that yesterday, Mrs. Raynolds joined me on the "Sunny" side of threescore years and ten, and the station arranged a very pleasant celebration for the occasion. The American and German circles dined at the Usshers, and after dinner all adjourned to the Yarrows, where the British, French and Russian Consuls, the two members of the Arch-bishop's mission and a few of our Armenian teachers assembled, and the evening was passed very pleasantly, with a good deal of music, both vocal and instrumental, the French Consul, who was formerly stationed at San Francisco, playing the bass-viol. It was arranged as a surprise, and was much enjoyed.

You will be glad to learn that we have had an interview with the Vali regarding beginning collections and other arrangements, looking to the speedy founding of the college, of which I have already writen you. He expresses much interest in the undertaking, assents to acting as chairman of a Committee to solicit funds here, etc. In accordance with his suggestion, a petition is now being prepared, asking officially for this sanction on his part, and for such action as may be needed to secure action at Cons'ple. I hope that you will approve the plan about which I have writen you, concerning my contribution to the college fund.

The land adjoining our premises which seems necessary for the erection of the new boys' school building came into the market in such a way that it seemed it must now be secured, or it would pass out of our reach, and so we hope to secure it, using some money now on deposit, temporarily, and the money which Dr. Ussher had conditionally promised. In this way we expect to make use of the building which we took from the Germans when they withdrew, and leave our present premises free for use for the girls' school, giving both suitable grounds. We are hoping and praying that you may soon be able to announce the appropriation which you have approved, as actually granted.

Again Yours most sincerely

G. C. Raynolds.

George E. Reynolds

Van Turkey

Dec. 8-1909.

Copy

Page

Rec'd JAN 11 1910

Van? Dec.13th.1909.

My dear Dr.Barton,

I hesitate about sending you this paper which I have prepared for the information of the kind patrons who have enabled us to carry on a village work the present year. It is long,and your time is precious,and there is a good deal which is old to you,tho I hoped it might add interest to the story for those for whom it is prepared. But I finally decide to send you a copy,thinking that you may care to know just how much work we are really doing here outside of that for which the appropriation of the Board affords part of the means. You will understand that not a cent of the Board's appropriations touch this work,which for the present year costs us about L 250.00,while the people' contribution approaches to an equal amount. We have no promises from any patrons beyond the present school year,and have not very much hope that the present patrons will continue their contributions in any such amount another year. It is yet too soon to form an idea as to what the Govt.or Armenian societies may do next year,but it seems most desirable to be able to continue this branch of our work,during this critical period of the country's history.

Dr.Ussher left us last Friday for Bitlis,to attend Mrs.Maynard,and as the roads and the weather are good,we expect that he will arrive their comfortably tomorrow. We hope he may not be long detained,so that he may be able to get back before the roads are closed with snow. The season has been very mild thus far,and no snow on our plain,tho the Mts.all about us have been white for several weeks. This is a great mercy for the poor,who are largely without fuel,and indeed fuel has been so exceedingly difficult to procure,that even the well to do have less than they need. We have had the greatest difficulty in procuring our own supply. It is very important that the coal deposits should be very soon exploited.

With best wishes for the season,and for all the year so soon to open from Mrs.Raynolds and me,for yourself and our other friends,I remain

Yours most sincerely

G. C. Raynolds.

George O. Reynolds

Van — Dec. 13-1909

Rec'd FEB 1 1910

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Van, Dec. 28th. 1909.

My dear Dr. Barton,

It is probable that Mr. Yarrow will write you of our joy in the receipt of a telegram announcing the granting of the long approved appropriation for a new boys' school building, but tho he is the principal of the school, I perhaps feel an equal interest in the undertaking which is thus made possible, and I will venture to write you from my own standpoint even at risk of repetition. We are all most devoutly grateful for the grant thus made, and we desire to use it in such a way as to promote the best interest of both the boys' and the girls' schools, while at the same time studying the best economy. We have every reason to expect that both these institutions will steadily increase in number of pupils and so in influence and usefulness, as the years go forward. It is very evident to any one familiar with the situation, that even now both are too crowded in our present premises, and that it is practically impossible to provide for the future without securing additional land. I think you have already been informed that we are negotiating for property adjoining our premises on the north. It now looks as if we would be successful in securing sufficient land to enable us to remove the boys' school, both the day school and the boarding department, to this new site, and so leave the whole of what is now occupied by the boys to the girls, an arrangement which, it seems to us, will properly provide for these two institutions for the future. No appropriation has yet been made for the girls' building, nor has the question been presented to the mission, because we have not felt, till now, that we were prepared to present it. But with the way cleared by the withdrawal of the boys, it does seem possible to satisfactorily arrange the matter, and we feel very confident that the mission will approve the plan as soon as there is a chance to present it, which we hope will be afforded thru a mission meeting next spring. Miss Lamson has already made inquiries concerning our needs and intimated that there were friends already interested in the matter, so that we feel a good degree of confidence that the boys' structure may be erected the coming

summer, and the girls' the following year.

So we are already indulging in the fascinating employment of making plans for the new edifices, and this is one reason why I am hastening to write today. Studying both economy and convenience, it seems very desirable to have a large school room which can be divided into separate rooms, or thrown into one according to convenience, and I write especially to ask for estimates of cost for rolling partitions of some kind. I know that rolling iron partitions are much used, and would like estimates of the cost of such partitions per square foot. We are thinking of a room some 70 by 45 Ft. and would like to be able to divide it into at least three separate rooms, with possibly one of them again subdivided. We should, of course, want doors to open between them. I would also ask if there is any other sort of rolling partition in use, and if so how it would compare with the iron ones. I have an idea that I saw, when in Europe, such partitions made of some kind of woven fabric, which was a better non-conductor, both of sound and of heat, than iron, and probably cheaper, and pretty certainly requiring less for freight.

Will you be so kind as to pass this letter along to Mr. Hosmer, asking him to send us information and estimates regarding these matters. I would also like to know what kinds of roofing material can be secured, that would be durable and not too expensive. At present we use tiles which we make here, and which are moderately satisfactory, and we have considered them cheaper than imported material, but we would like again to make comparason, before deciding on what sort of roof to plan for.

Our Christmas passed very quietly and pleasantly last Sat. and on next Sat. we hold our annual reception, but the hard work of Christmas will come at the Armenian celebration. I hope that you have enjoyed a pleasant holiday season, and we are hoping and praying for a rich blessing on all the work of the Board, here and in other lands.

Mrs. Raynolds joins in hearty greetings to you and your family and to our other friends at the rooms, and I remain

Yours most sincerely G. C. Raynolds

Matters discussed in Building

Dec. 28-1909

Niagara -

5-8

Chas. W. Eliot

Chas. Eliot Norton

Wm. C. Ewing

Mrs. Martha H. Raynolds.

228.

FEB 25 1901
MAR 13 1901

Van Jan 22nd 1901.

Dear Dr Barton.

After you have sent us so many & such good recruits it seems much like unwarranted begging to ask for more but one of our greatest & most pressing needs is not yet met. viz a Kindergarten teacher who at the same time could give some assistance in the High School.

Miss Platt writes from Harpoot that she is surprised & disappointed at finding no Kindergarten children there & only a few in the primary department fit for such a class.

Here we already have 65 & more begging to come in after Easter when the weather

weather will make it safer for the little "tots"

Of this 65 - thirty are our nursery orphans & thirty five are outside children who pay two medjidias per year. every one. I should not have dared to open this department had not Miss Platts coming seemed so well assured & the fact that she was going elsewhere did not reach us until school had opened. I fear our present teacher cannot carry it on satisfactorily beyond next June & am very anxious a teacher should be here if possible by Sept 1st 1901 - if not then very soon after.

Miss McLaren knows nothing of Kindergarten work & does not play at all on a musical instrument & knows nothing of musical notation - our native Kindergarten teacher too neither plays or sings. Miss Mosher does this for the outsiders & Miss Wilson for the orphans.

Miss McLaren will have her hands more than full with the School which I shall pass over to her next Sept. We like her much & she seems to be getting the language more rapidly than did our other ladies. Mrs Worker being a newly married lady will not be able to do much beyond a single recitation perhaps.

As for myself with 180 orphan girls who every day need more & more care, discipline & instruction I cannot give a Kindergarten the supervision it needs or train inexperienced teachers.

It is very desirable the new comers should know something of music & especially how to play — not necessarily classical music but enough to lead the school songs & hymns & teach the singing. The more she knows the better but this is not the first qualification.

These Kindergarten children come from the richest family of the city & we may thus be able to exert an influence where we otherwise could not & at the most impressible period

a few of them are children of graduates of our schools

Our school is like a great, fast growing boy pushing out every where. Our rooms are all crowded & when warm enough classes recite out doors or on the porches & in cold weather we are sorely pressed. I refused to take any new free pupils this year & threaten next year to send away some free pupils we have. The teachers say "If you turn them away what are the poor children to do?" The Armenian schools. The High School have as large a proportion of free pupils as have we. & they find it hard to meet their expenses. I question the wisdom of carrying free pupils beyond the middle of the Intermediate Department unless very promising & available for teachers.

In our girls school we have one trouble the boys schools do not experience. Marrying does not deprive them of their teachers & they can more easily find experienced instructors but we ladies have to use more inexperienced material.

Please remember me to Mrs Barton & the children who are scarcely children now. Thanking you for all your kind words & interest in us I remain

Yours in the Lord's work

M. W. Raynolds.

Mrs. Geo. C. Raynolds,

Private

Van March 29th 1901.

Dear Friend

I trust you will not be too much annoyed at my importunity but will reserve your judgment until you come to the end. I want to renew my entreaty that our Kindergarten Lady be sent on as soon as possible. I got myself into a big scrape when I opened the Kindergarten & it is almost running away with us. Our native teacher cannot do justice to it longer than this year & she needs help. The mothers are so glad to get the restless little youngsters out of their way for five hours of the day that we may hope they will not be very critical as to the amount they learn but we must not rely too much on this.

Fancy you say - With all their new recruits they can get along. Miss Nesher in six weeks becomes a mother & then eight of her hours of school must fall on me. Miss McLaren can teach her English & I can combine her singing

in the week to the city school.
Address Love to Mrs Barton & to the children
Yours very
Sincerely
W. C. Raynolds

classes I can combine with mine but the five solid hours of playing the organ for the Kindergarten I must do - There is no one else who can =

Miss Wilson, our English lady, gets the language very slowly & as yet can work but little in anything requiring a tongue save through an interpreter She too has a number of physical weaknesses which a change of climate & the less favorable circumstances aggravate - Since this year came in she has hardly been to the table a dozen times - has at two different times been in bed a week & has been confined to her room for the last three weeks threatened with an abscess in the varicose veins of her leg. She cannot play for her own Kindergarten class but for that I do not worry believing the Lord does not require us to do for these orphans children what we simply cannot do.

Another possibility hangs over my head which I have concluded to make known to you - though it is only a possibility - viz that Miss McLaren may follow in Miss Barrows foot steps & marry off - A young English Consul came

here last autumn as "locum tenens" - He is a nice fellow & is with Miss McL - from one to to four hours nearly every day - One would hardly suppose he is contemplating matrimony & I dont know just how Miss McLaren would look upon him or her relation to this work but "a burnt child dreads the fire" & I cannot help feeling there is a possibility she may leave us.

I feel I cannot keep the school longer than until the close of this school year. July 15th. I have already told Miss McL - I shall withdraw entirely in July - If I had no other work there is nothing I should enjoy more than school work but you will remember aside from this I have the education & training & mothering of 120 other orphan girls on my hands & as I must be mother to these my responsibility is greater for these than for the day pupils - I am only two years of age & have carried these orphans for three years. Mrs Mosher being a young wife & young mother I fear she could not do justice to the school for even a year So is it not wise to have a lady here - in course of training for any emer-

gency which may arise - that is over Ka
gardener might be able to run the entire sc
with such help as Mrs Nosher & I could gi

We like Miss McLaren & I think
bids fair to make a good sensible head
the school & unless the Lords will is very
sidedly in the line of matrimony I hope she
continue with us.

You know the Persian mission is
templating sending their unmarried missi
for the mountains over here to make his
quarters, so to me it seems the only wise pla
to keep our quota of two full that we m
at least have one available for work.

These personal items are not for th
general public, & I beg you will consider
them confidential but I felt you ought to k
them to rightly understand our need & our si
tuation. Miss McLaren might be muc
annoyed if she knew I had written this s
ask you will not speak of it.

Should Miss McLaren go off what woul
you say to our asking Miss Holt to co
on at once?

With this will go the report of the sc
for the last two years - I also give our

Mrs. M. W. Raynolds

Van Ness 19th 1901.

Dear Dr Smith Rec'd Sep. 16.

I thought Dr R had left a letter for you with regard to a lady teacher, but as I cannot find it I conclude he must have sent it by last post.

The inclosed letter, which I ask you to read, speaks for itself.

Our station have decided to ask Miss Annie Allen to come here provided it seems best to you and to the Prudential Committee.

She is somewhat known - either directly or from those who to some of us & we know she is a sweet Christian girl - moreover she knows something of our Van school.

We have heard Harpoot did not call her because they thought she had not sufficient executive ability for their large school. Of course we need executive ability in our large school — perhaps not so much as at Harpoot — but with no one here may it not be wise to call her?

Our Kindergartener is supposed to be her associate and it is possible she might possess that talent in some degree.

I think too that ere long we shall need a third lady for our school — We need her now but having some regard to the many calls made upon you & emptiness of the Boards purse we do not press this need.

In view of these things is it best to ask this home to come here — If so will you please send this letter & send to her.

It may be she will at once refuse to come & so the question be closed

I don't know whether escort could now be found for her to Constantinople this autumn.

From here, there would be no trouble

If Miss Allen comes & comes this autumn please telegraph no-just day "Come" & sign Allen or if day of sailing is known - that date & sign Allen.

This because Miss Wilson will need to know to make her arrangements

Dr Nestor thinks it will be wise for Miss Allen to go to Tiflis as it is only a week's journey from there to Okstaffa where she leaves the train & she would have only a week of horseback riding

It may be some one will want to go to Batoum with Miss Wilson

in which case Miss Allen could go from Cairo to Beirut & meet Dr Washburn there. You can write to Bourne at Constantinople

Please also write us as soon as time of sailing - route or escort is known so we can make arrangements for meeting her. & if she does not come please write at once.

We talked some of Mr Brown's daughter but feared there was or would be a man in that case too.

Please give my love to your wife & oldest daughter whom I remember seeing at Miss Child's. Love also to ladies at the rooms. If I were not so terribly busy I would write them.

In great haste.

Yours in the Lord's work.

A. W. Raynolds

P.S. I do not know Miss Allen's address & must trouble you to write it.

Mrs. M. H. Raynolds,

MAY 13 1903

Van April 12th '02

Dear Dr Barton.

Because you did not on your arrival home, find stacks of letters importuning you to send a Kindergartener to Van, I am sure you have not decided that our need is past. We have been corresponding with several parties & so have waited to hear from them but without success. Our first & great need is of a Kindergartener & we are very anxious she should be on the ground by Sept first. It is quite possible Miss McClaren will be with us another year at least. It is very hard for us to carry the Kindergarten along alone as we have but one native who can work in it & Mrs Hosher is compelled to give much time to it. She of course cannot be relied

upon to be regularly present. &
Miss McLaren has all she can do
in caring for the schools which ought
to come under her care.
Our climate is such & we have so
good a summer retreat, near at
hand, that there is no objection to
a Lady coming here anew in mid
summer.

As I wrote before it will be a
great help if she has at least
some Knowledge of music
As I have written so fully before
there is no need of saying more.
There seems to be almost a fatal-
ity in our securing permanent work-
ers & did we not see the Lord's hand
in it, it would be very hard to bear.
The Germans, without an excess
of common sense, started out alone
a very nice Lady for the orphanage
in mid winter. This necessitated

her coming by Rhoi - Reaching there, the German orphanage being short of helpers, they laid hold of her to stay until new workers from Germany could get there. She hopes it will be for only a month but we know it must be longer & we already hear they are trying to keep her for some months.

Give much love to Mrs Barton.

As ever sincerely your friend

M. W. Reynolds —

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REC'D MAY 22 1905

Van Ness 17th 1905.

JUN 12 1905

Dear Dr Barton.

I believe Mrs Bosher writing you about her industrial work to day & I have long been proposing to write you about mine thinking you would send my request to the Soc of Industrial Missions Rel. (I do not know his location or address)

But after what you have written of Mr Wanamaker's plans I want to bring my work also before those interested in helping this people by work.

Three years ago I opened the industry among our orphans - first that they might be able to their own homes, if ever opportunity offers, to turn their work & time into cas

pets for their own homes & for sale

& second - should rug making become an industry here our girls would be fitted at once to enter into it.

The very best work has been our aim & I am not ashamed of the rugs we have made - The only teacher we could find was an unprincipled woman who was not conscientious in her teaching & we have had to work along & learn most from our own experience & from the suggestions of others.

Three rugs I have sold - two are in the new church & one I passed out to the German ladies as part of their orphanage outfit.

I want more than aught else a market & to what extent I enlarge the work will depend on that.

we are putting in to day a large 12 x 5 ft rug for the church pulpit which will be largely a present to the church from the Orphanage.

If Dr Raymond & I take a vacation of a year beginning this summer it will necessitate the closing of the work while I am away. I hope they may be able to work the church rug off. The great difficulty is in keeping the rugs straight & regular & in harmonizing the colors & this people are not quick to detect deviations from the true.

If the gentleman you wrote of will be here this autumn I should wish to be here then & probably should not leave

This weather when we have been in such straits to find work for the

hungry poor. I have at expense of
fund given out wool to be spun & n
given one girl work at 4 piastres per
which was 1 pis more than the Armen
school had got given her when bread was c
ce. To one other girl I have given on
full meal per day as compensation
her work.

I have a couple of sug
ings I might now send to America a
it has occurred to me, as we are go
to Germany & have so many patrons
it might be better to take one sug wi
there, to increase interest there & help
up a market ~~there~~. The duties would
not be so heavy there but Dr Lepsius
in that market with his Dorya
If I go out I shall try everywhere to
information & ideas about the mark
& selling. If sixty five I shall
glad to turn my work over to you
hands but I want to secure the ma
back for my girls & for my poor

I make no very definite request to day because of the uncertainty of our own movements but I want you to know we are in the field & a little of what we are doing & a special one great want is of a place to which to send our goods to sell them.

I should like to know when that gentleman is likely to be here or to enter into correspondence with parties who want to enter this work.

Being a missionary I have been able to go as thoroughly into this work as might be desirable - but the experience I have secured might be of value to others entering it

Please give my kind remembrances to your wife & to your children

Sincerely Yours. Mrs. M. E. Reynolds.

Thos. G. C. Raynolds

Van - Turkey - Apr. 17 - 05.

Rec'd JUN 11 1906

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Mrs. G. C. Reynolds

Blankenburg 29th. 5. 06

Rec'd JUN 12 1906

Dear Dr Barton,

My heart was exceedingly stirred by hearing San Francisco was to be rebuilt by Sunday labor & I felt I must say my little say about it. Please read the inclosed & as I know no one there and none of the leading papers there I presume to ask you to send it to one of the leading daily papers or if you know of any organization fighting this matter send it to them.

You do not need to endorse it or even let it be known that it has passed through your hands simply direct it & send it where you think best

You may think me a fool to do this but God so laid it on my heart I could not do otherwise. God can use the weakest means & all depends on His using

any attempt we make for Him - There is such crying need in America for church to stand up for Him & to stand with Him - The rush for wealth has seemed to crush out much of the good in our land - I pray daily for our dear Board & especially that the debt may be fully paid off before your next annual meeting. Though I consider the great gift the Board could receive to be Holy Spirit in all its work, workers & constituency.

I suppose Dr K - reaches Geneva to day. I now expect to stay here until the 8 or 10th of July & then go on to Berne to take the route on the North side Black Sea to Tiflis & Van. Two German ladies & probably Pastor Johann Lehmann go at same time

Give much love to Mrs Barton & my remembrances & very best wishes to Dr Smith if he is back at the rooms. Your co worker

M. W. Reynolds -

London 16th 6. 06

Dear Sirs

The inclosed article speaks for itself. Will you give it a place in your columns, as at such a time as this all loyal Americans have (have they not?) a right to speak.

I did not attach my name to it; not because I am ashamed to own the article, but because I do not wish to draw attention from the article to myself.

Presuming you would not wish to publish any article without knowing who

the writer might be. I sign myself

Respectfully & in the very best wishes for the permanent good of San Francisco

W. W. Reynolds-

Mrs. G. C. "

Missionary of A. B. C. F. M.

Van

Turkey in Asia

Looking over a London paper a day or two ago, I saw it stated that the rebuilding of San Francisco would be carried on, on Sundays as on other days & that no extra wage would be paid for Sunday work as has been the custom.

My heart cried out "Has San Francisco learned nothing in this terrible visitation?" Will she lay her foundation stones again in disobedience to God's command?

If her citizens failed to see God's hand in the earthquake can they not see it in the wind which fanned the flames so many tons and in the unexpected and improbable cutting off of the water supply?

Are there no business men in San Francisco willing at least to give God the benefit of the doubt? Is the church of God wholly asleep

amid all that suffering? Has she no power to protest?

Can business men teach the great army of working men to break for months the fourth commandment and then expect them to keep the ~~fourth~~ sixth and the eighth or to be honest, true and faithful in their work?

Dear friends if you have no consideration for your own safety or property will you jeopardize the lives of thousands by provoking God to repeat this awful judgment?

Will you not please study Jer 17 21-27 and Ex 34:21 - also this word "The blessing of the Lord, it maketh rich & He addeth no sorrow therewith" as well as Faber's words "He always wins who sides with God"

"I have been told that the omnibus horses of London rest one day in seven because their owners have found

out by experiment that this means money in their pockets: Shall men of America pour out all their strength in seven days weekly of hard work even for a single Summer? Can San Francisco afford to run counter to God expressed will?

An American who loves both San Francisco & the United States.
London Eng May 16th '06

Rec'd OCT 31 1904

Ernest Riggs
Euphrates College
Harpoot
Turkey

Oct. 5, 1904.

NOV 4 1904

Rev. James L. Barton, D. D.
Boston, Mass.

Dear Dr. Barton:-

It shames me to think that I have been here nearly a month and have not yet written to tell you of my arrival. The excuse of being too busy hardly would apply with such a letter. Still an illness accounts for the last two weeks, but that is all the excuse I have.

I wrote you a note from Constantinople I think. My journey has been most pleasant all the way from America, and the last half was by no means an exception. At Marsovan I spent nearly a month and then came on with Miss Wilson and Mr. Dingilian a new teacher. Something on the

road however laid us all three up with a fever about two weeks after reaching here, and though convalescent we are not any of us yet at work again. The taste of the work which I had, however, makes me know I shall enjoy it very much, and I sincerely hope I may accomplish somewhat of that for which I am sent. The Missionary circle is a very pleasant one, & with my brother and his wife I think I have a very pleasant situation.

There are a couple of matters of business which I must mention.

It was somehow my impression when I left New York that the drafts which I held were mine to pay my expenses and keep the balance if there was such. Where this impression came from I cannot tell unless it was in conversation in Boston, for on looking over your letters I find that you had planned

at first to have me incur any needful expense, render the account to my brother and it would be "allowed by the Treasurer." On consultation with my brother he advised my writing you about it that there might be no question, so I await your reply. I received drafts amounting to $150., my ticket from New York to Naples $55. a check for twenty dollars from you in Northfield and I also drew five dollars from Dr Creegan in New York. The last two items I supposed would go on my personal account. This more than sufficed to pay my expenses here. Of course if I had gone by way of England my expense would have been more.

The other matter is one which I somewhat hesitate to bring up but was urged to by my brother Charles. It is in regard to a contract or written understanding of the terms on which I come out. He

said there had been cases where men had come out and then sickness or some unforseen condition had forced their return short of their term, and the matter of return expenses had been undecided. In Robert College I believe they have a contract which makes provision for the return expense in the war; that if the term is not completed on the teacher's account, that is if he breaks the contract because of sickness or otherwise, he shall pay his own return expense. But if for any reason the Board of Trustees recall him then shall pay his expenses home. The idea of a contract had not occurred to me till my brother mentioned it and if it seems unnecessary, I do not urge it at all. I merely mention it.

Yours very sincerely,

Ernest W. Riggs.

Harpoot
Turkey-in-Asia
Oct 25th, 1904.

ARR'D NOV 22 1904

Rev James L. Barton, D.D.
Boston, Mass.

Dear Dr Barton:-

Yesterday I went to Mezeré and filled out an application blank for the office of Vice Consul of the United States in this place. Now I write to you to see if you, the Board of Trustees of the College, object to my accepting the position if I should be appointed. If you do, of course I shall not accept it.

When the matter was first suggested last week I did not think it would be right for me to take the position lest it should take me away from College duties in the event of Dr. Norton's absence, but two things have made me go as far as I have

in the matter.

First, Dr Norton assures me that in the event of his absence a single afternoon in Mézéré in the week would suffice to accomplish all the routine business, and any extra business except in case of great emergency could be brought up here by the drago man. Unless Dr Norton is absent there is absolutely nothing to do.

Second is the great need which we Americans have of some representative here in Consul Nortons absence, and the fact that there seems to be no one else here who could be appointed. In Seaboard towns, foreigners, not Missionaries, are easily found to act as Vice Consul but here there is no one. The need was evidenced when Dr. Norton was away this last time and Mr Young, H.B.M's Vice Consul at Diarbekir, who

had been acting in his stead, was also absent. A threatening disturbance broke out in the city and but for the opportune return of Dr Norton, we should have been quite uneasy.

The Missionaries here approve of it, but yet I am not sure that you would. I am here to teach in the College and if this interfered with my work I should resign. If however you disapprove I will not accept the position. In that case you can communicate with Washington directly I suppose. My application goes by this mail.

Yours sincerely,

Ernest W. Riggs.

Ernest. W. Rigg

Harpoot, Turkey

Oct. 25, 1904

237
Rec'd JAN 5 1905

Harput, Turkey.
Dec. 6th 1904

Rev. James L. Barton D. D.
Boston, Mass.

Ans'd JAN 6 1905

Dear Dr Barton:-

I was glad to receive your letter of Nov. fourth though I can't say I rejoiced at your decision. However as that was the understanding I do not wish to make any objections.

Last night I gave Harry the following account and have asked him to deduct the $68.75 from my salary

Recd June 21st one check		$20.00
" June 24th " S.S. ticket		$55.00
" " " two drafts	$75. @	$150.00
Total receipts		$225.00

Ticket Northfield to New York.	$4.00
" New York to Naples	$55.00
" Naples to Constple including trip to Rome and incidental expenses	$73.25
Expense Constple to Marsovan	$13.50
" Marsovan to Harput.	11.50
Total expenses	$156.25

$156.25
Balance Due College. $68.75

Part of this $68.75 I had to use in New York as well as a small sum which I drew on account from Dr. Creegan. Nearly all the rest I was obliged to use in getting my teeth in shape in Constantinople, so that I had only a very small balance when I reached Harput, but I hope to be able to pay it back from my salary in a few months.

You will notice I have included my trip to Rome. This was at my brothers suggestion as it was no more than if I had come directly by England and France.

I should also have mentioned that Dr Creegan also paid one dollar for my passport visée, which he said was an expense of the trip.

I received a temporary appointment as Vice Consul from Constantinople two weeks ago and have to discharge its duties now. It takes some time but has not yet interfered materially with College work. I await your decision with interest in this matter.

Yours sincerely Ernest W. Riggs

Rev. Ernest H. Riggs.

Harpoot Dec. 1904.

238
Rec'd FEB 3 1905

Harput, Turkey.
Jan. 5, 1905.

Ans'd MAR 10 1905

Rev. James L. Barton D.D.,
Congregational House,
Boston, Mass.

Dear Dr. Barton:-

Your letter of Nov 22, 1904 was most welcome. I confess I had serious doubts as to the right I had to accept the responsibilities and duties of the office of Vice Consul, even temporarily without your consent, because it is so entirely outside the line of my present work. I felt the necessity of having someone in the office and as I was the only available candidate I took it.

It has thus far taken a good deal of thought and spare time, and perhaps my lessons have suffered on one or two occasions, though not seriously but once, when two lessons had to be omitted one day to allow me to go

to Mezereh. I hope this will not be often necessary and that the loss, whatever it may be, I may be able to make up by acting as a Vice Consul when Dr Norton is absent.

I enjoy the work though some of the formality is very wearisome. There is a very substantial salary while I am acting but nothing when Dr Norton is here.

Your kindness in writing to the Department of State, though it was not to object to my appointment but only to express approval, is appreciated. I have received word that my appointment has been signed at Washington and awaits the filing of certain documents, to be forwarded to me. In the mean time I act under a special appointment from the Consul General at Constantinople.

I remain,

Yours sincerely

Ernest W. Riggs.

Ernest H. Riggs

Harpoot. Jan. 5. 1905.

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Rev. E. H. R[illegible]

REC'D MAR 10 1905

Harput, Turkey
Feb. 7, 1905.

ANS'D MAR 10 1905

Rev. James L. Barton, D.D.,
Boston, Mass.

Dear Dr. Barton:

Your letter of Jan. 6th reached my hands this week. The figure $156.25 is as near correct for my travelling expenses as I can give. It includes my expenses at Rome and Constantinople and everything else that properly comes under travelling expenses. I was obliged to spend about fifteen dollars in New York for outfit of various sorts, and nearly thirty five dollars in Constantinople on my teeth. Then with about ten dollars on hand when I reached here, and various incidental purchases and expenses at home

and in Constantinople, you can easily see where the $68.75 went to. However, I was able to pay this up by the end of the old year and now I have a credit on Harry's books.

I know I was somewhat economical, perhaps partly because I thought that what I saved would be mine, but mostly from the training I always have had, especially in the last four years. According to the agreement, to pay my travelling expenses, you owe me nothing.

I cannot remember whether I wrote you last year, when you were inquiring about a man for the Doshisha, that I thought it possible that my room-mate and second cousin, Mr. J. Rigg Brewster, might wish to teach in some Mission College this

year. He will graduate in June from Princeton, and now writes me that he hopes to teach "next year, and would prefer to be in the foreign field than anywhere else." - -- "Wish I could get over there with you. Do you know whether there will be any opening there for me?" Strange to say, I wish the same thing, but don't think the chance is very good for his coming here. I have written several times to Marsovan about it but the money seems to be lacking there. I know of no one who would better fill their need when Mr. Boyce leaves. Mr. Brewster is not a Volunteer but I think that he would be very likely to give his life as a Missionary if he were thus brought in contact with the work.

He did not ask me to tell you

anything about it but I do
think he will object. His add
if you should wish to writ
him, is the same as mine las
year: — Murray-Dodge Hall
Princeton, N. J.

Perhaps he has already been
called to Marsovan, as I heard
directly that they had secured
funds. If not let me say agai
that if Mr. Boyce goes and the
money is secured, I believe h
would be an excellent perso
for the place, and I think th
people in Marsovan want him

Yours respectfully
Ernest W. Riggs

240

Rec'd MAY 4 1905

Rec'd MAY 8 1905

Euphrates College.

HARPOOT, TURKEY, March 29 1905

Rev.James L. Barton,D.D.
Boston,Mass.

Dear Dr.Barton:

It has been my purpose to study theology and become an evangelical missionary,but the deplorable condition of the people,both physically and spiritually,here in this region,has made me feel that if I di so and returned to Harput,I should not be putting my life to best advantage.

You are well aware of the desperate poverty of the people and consequent dependence of most of the churches on missionary funds.This dependence in my mind is one of the most potent influences for deadening the spiritual life of a church.That these churches are dead in form and falseness,and on a level with the oriental churches in many ways,is something of which I am persuaded from my observations and the personal contact I have had with the young men of the college and city.How these people can be revitalized and their minds opened to the real things of the Gospel,is the burning question that prompts me to write to you today.

It seems to me that to continue pouring out money to these dependent churches,and preaching to these self-satisfied people tends to further dependence and to no more vital life. I have therefore come to the natural conclusion that the more important work here now is to secure in some measure selfreliance and a broad mind for the people,that their religion may not be formal but real,not a pretence but natural,not more churches and members but at least a little real,vital,personal religion that may leaven the whole lump slowly.

Toward this end I think the schools are doing a great work and I am glad to work in them these three years.But I think

another great factor, perhaps a greater, would be to extend and increase the industrial work far beyond the schools and orphanages.

I think I am not alone in this belief. My brother says that he would not wish to stay here if it were not that his work in the college which seems to be worth while. Mr. Carey told me that he could not stay here if he did not have the Seminary to work in. Mr. Frame said that he had for years wished he might drop all work but the industrial, but the Board did not approve.

The open hostility of the Protestant pastors to the missionaries, also makes it seem as if we might almost as well try to work through the oriental churches as throughthe Protestant. They seem to want the money, but no other help or guidance from outside.

All this leads me to ask the following questions:-

Has the Board ever taken up any independent industrial work pure and simple, and have the results in the way of preparing them for a better realization of the true meaning of the Gospel, justified the expense?

Is this a legitimate use of the funds of the Board?

Have you come across any men of means who object to giving money toward preaching the Gospel, who would be willing to give for a sort of social and industrial mission?

Have you met any men of ability who would be willing to give themselves to such social and industrial work, who would not otherwise go to the foreign field?

Finally, do you think that it would be possible to start such a work and profitable to carry it out on a large or small scale?

You see I have asked a number of questions because I hope that by answering them you can throw light on a question of great importance to me at least. I shall be very glad of any further suggestions outside of any of my questions.

You have already many times obliged me by answering me fully on various subjects and I thank you for them and for this.

I am,

Yours respectfully,

Ernest W. Riggs

Correct E. W. Riggs
Harpoot - Turkey - Mar 29-05.

Rec'd MAY 4 1905

Euphrates College.

Ans'd MAY 8 1905

HARPOOT, TURKEY, March 31 1905

Rev. James L. Barton, D.D.
BOSTON, MASS.

Dear Dr. Barton:-

Since writing the enclosed letter I have heard in a roundabout way that a committee has been selected of prominent and wealthy men for just such a purpose as I had in mind. This is very nice and perhaps I may be able to do the best work in connection with this committee. Perhaps some of my questions are answered by this but I should be very glad if you would let me hear from you in the matter.

I do not wish to give you the impression that I have given up the idea of studying for the ministry, but only that I think that a man in industrial work here would now be more useful than preaching here. There are many other fields and countries where it could doubtless be different.

I remain,

Yours respectfully,

Ernest W. Riggs

Ernest H. Riggs

Harpoot - Turkey - Mar. 31 - 05.

242.
Rec'd JUL 31 1905

Harput, Turkey
July 5, 1905.

Ans'd AUG 4 1905

Rev. James L. Barton, D.D.
Boston Mass.

Dear Dr. Barton:-

As I wrote you once before, I was urgently requested to take the office of Vice Consul here by my brother and others of the station, besides Dr. Norton. I did not then realize, nor even till I had ceased to have charge, what a lot of time and energy I had to put into it. Though it interfered very little with my actual class work, it prevented me from a great deal of personal contact with the boys and somewhat hindered me in the preparation of my lessons. Now Dr. Norton will soon leave again, leaving things in my hands once more, and I shall be very sorry if I have to serve on into next term before his successor comes.

A letter from Mrs. Norton a while ago said that she had secured the promise from our President that he would appoint no one here who would

not be in sympathy with the Missionaries. Dr. Norton thinks that this means that you will be communicated with about it. I certainly hope so. I was talking yesterday with Dr. Norton, however, and he said he feared it would be a long time before the right man would be found. So I write today simply to communicate these suggestions of Dr. Norton, and also to retract what I said about the work of the Consulate not interfering with my school work.

Dr Norton has urged me many times to apply for appointment as full Consul but aside from the impossibility of doing so under my engagement to teach, I do not wish to enter that line of work. To have indefinite charge of the Consulate in this way is just as bad. I am perfectly willing to continue as Vice Consul to act in case of temporary absence of the Consul, but I would suggest that very great efforts be made, if that is in your power, to secure the speedy appointment of a Consul to Harput.

It was very sad for all of us to hear yesterday, after the celebration of the day, the news of the death of Secretary Hay.

It seems to me the greatest loss our Nation has suffered since the death of Lincoln.

Please do not feel obliged to answer this letter and please pardon me if I have suggested too much, but it seemed to me there was a danger of a long delay in the appointment of Dr. Porter's successor which would hamper my usefulness in the school.

Yours sincerely

Ernest W. Riggs.

Ernest H. Riggs

Harpoot - Turkey. July 5, 1905.

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c

Rec'd AUG 21 1905

Tarput, Bardez
June 26, 1905.

Ans'd AUG 28 1905

Dear Dr. Barton:-

Although my sense of personal loss is so great, I can easily put it aside to think of Harry. You will be hearing from others I presume the details of Annie's suffering and going Home, and I have not the heart to write of them. One thing however I feel I must write as no one but Harry knows it as I do and he cannot write about it. That is Harry's dependence on the help of Annie in mental and spiritual difficulties.

This was a hard year for all the Missionaries here. I do not need to explain how. Harry is one who is especially susceptible to depression from such difficulties. Many an evening I have been privileged to share in their conversation. Harry discouraged seeing the hard facts and feeling the hard knocks But Annie, cheerful, full of faith and courage gently encouraging him to go on with the work. Many an evening he

has felt it didn't pay to go on, and many a morning he has been able to start on again buoyed up by Annie's strength.

And now God has seen fit to take her away. I cannot think that He wishes Harry to stop his work and yet it seems as if he could not go on alone. His trust in God is wonderful and he bears his loss with a beautiful spirit of submission, but he needs some one to stay him up in the trying times of the school year. Mary is here now and it is Providential that she is. She is the nearest to Harry of any of the family and has been with him these days much and it has been a wonderful help. I do not wish to jump at conclusions but it seems an indication that she is the best one to be a comforter on earth to him this year. Harry is not the only man who has lost his wife, and I suppose many have labored on alone and he may be able to. However as Mary is here so Providentially, arriving just when she was most needed, it seems as if perhaps it was God's will she should stay here to help Harry to keep on with his work.

Dr. Barnum gave me his letter to

you to read, but I felt that this side of the question, which in my mind is the most important, was left out. Possibly, though it is important, it is a side which cannot be brought before committees or discussed generally, but I can and do tell you because I feel its importance and know Harrys experiences and temperament.

If I could go to Adabazar to take Mary's place I would be delighted to do so, but I can do nothing but lay it before you. I need say no more as others have written of the more public reasons. This letter is of course private

Hoping the way may open for Mary to stay here,

I remain

Yours sincerely

Ernest W. Riggs.

Ernest H. Riggs

Harpoot - Turkey. July 26 - 1905.

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Rec'd DEC 18 1905

~~Ans'd DEC 21 1905~~

Ans'd JAN 1 1906

CONSULAR SERVICE, U. S. A.

Harput, Turkey,
Nov. 17, 1905

Rev. James L. Barton, D. D.
Congregational House,
Boston Mass.

Dear Dr. Barton:-

I remember in one of your letters which you sent me before I decided to come out here, that you said that you could not send me if I was married, or something of that sort. I have about made up my mind that it is the best thing all around now for me to have a mate. Do don't be alarmed, I do not mean a wife, I mean some one who like myself can come out to work in the College exclusively. It makes me very jealous to see four or five ladies giving their time to the girls department, and so little outside influence for the boys. Really I am the only American that gives his whole time to this work and this even has only been possible since the new Consul came. There are teachers, plenty of them, and perhaps all as competent as need be in all branches but the English. But the teaching is not by any means all that there is to be done in the College. I feel more and more every day that I am here that we need more outside influence in the College to make a new sentement and new ideals.

I am reminded of a remark that Harry made one day when I was urging the necessity of severe punishment for boys who had cheated in their College examinations. He said: "These teachers did the same thing when they were in College and they will not approve of punishing the boys more severely than they were punished." And sure enough, when the matter came up they ranged themselves all against any severer measures telling me that my ideas would suit Americans but that their people were not ready for so much. I admit that every measure advisable in American schools would not be practicable here, and I am glad that there are more conservative persons here than myself, but I do think that there is a decided lack of firm feeling in favor of a higher standard in every line of work. The feeling of self-satisfaction is too strong and the desire to do as has always been

done is too thoroughly natural to allow the College to go into native control yet, much as that may be the final aim. I think that more teachers from Marsovan, Aintab and even Beirut and Constantinople, are very much needed. Others perhaps do not agree with me in this, but I think that no one seriously thinks that to have another American teacher here would be harmful.

Perhaps you will say that is all true but we havent the money or the man to send. Inave taken some of the time that belonged to the college this last year for the Consular work and if the money cannot be found in the regular channels I am willing to put part of my earnings to the extent of half my next years salary in as a starter for a special fund to send a man out. I think there are other men who would help who could do it easier than I can, but rather than let another year go with so great a lack I would be willing to contribute £T40.

As for the man, I am not so sure, but think that if the plan is approved I could find a suitable candidate. I have several in mind but of course would not suggest the idea to them definitely till I knew there was a chance of getting the job.

I have been uncertain as to getting my salary from our government until quite recently but now that I have received it, I write without waiting to consult my brother as I think that if anything is to be done it must be done soon. I have neither provided the means nor the man, but if the plan is approved I will do my best to get both if my services are desired.

Yours sincerely,

Ernest W. Riggs.

Ernest W. Riggs
Harpoot Turkey.
Nov. 17-1905.

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Rec'd FEB 9 1906

CONSULAR SERVICE, U. S. A.

Harput, Turkey,
Jan. 8, 1906

Rev. James L. Barton D. D.
Congregational House,
Boston, Mass.

Dear Dr. Barton:-

I wrote you on Nov. 17 last of my hope and wish regarding another Tutor for this College next year. On Dec 23 or thereabouts I was so encouraged by the way that Harry looked at the plan that I wrote to a friend suggesting the merest possibility of the position and asking him if he would consider an offer if it was made to him. Last week I think that Harry sent to you a report in which he mentioned the fact of the favorable action taken by the Board of Managers, but he says that he did not suggest any person for the place. So now before I hear of your thought about the matter I will write you of my man and see if you will care to enter into communication with him in case there seems to be a likelihood of his being supported.

The one I would most like to see here in the place is George B. Stewart Jr., Princeton '06, son as you may imagine of Pres. Stewart of Auburn, and a boy of very rare qualities as I knew him. I did not know his plans but wrote to him so that if he had not finally decided on something he might be thinking of the possibility out here.

Ans FEB 19 1906

If he were to fail, I would suggest Deane Edwards, his classmate, and also a man of fine parts. His brother was in my class and so I knew him better than many of that class. He is a student volunteer as well. If you wished to write to either of them, the address simply Princeton, N. J. would be all that is necessary.

I think I wrote you once that Courtland Van Leusen, Princeton 07 and Mt. Hermon '03 was one who would very likely be ready to come out to take my place here when I leave a year from next fall. He is an excellent fellow and if you should wish to write to him at any time about these matters he would be very glad to give you any information that he could, I am sure.

The wonderful awakening here now lays a new burden of responsibility on the teachers, and I hope that in some way the means may be found to send out another man to this place.

Yours very sincerely,

Ernest W. Riggs.

Ernest H. Riggs

Harpoot. Jan. 8-1906.

Rec'd MAY 28 1906

Harput, Turkey,
May 4, 1906

Ans'd JUN 11 1906

Rev. James L. Barton, D. D.
Congregational House,
Boston, Mass.

Dear Dr. Barton:-

This last mail brought me two pieces of very good news. The fact that a new Tutor was actally under appointment, and the second fact, that our good friend, Mr. Pashgian, had consented to foot the bill for a building to be used as a Gymnasium. These are two things in which I have been specially interested since I came and so I am specially glad that they both are realities.

I have written a letter to Mr. French about his coming, and Harry has also added something. Of course both of us will be very glad to give him any further information that we can if it is not too late, I hope that he may write to us without our having to write to him first. One thing I would like to mention, and perhaps make a suggestion about. When I came out there was no provision for my furniture. I borrowed things at first till I could have some made, but I sleep on a bed that belongs to the Hospital, still. My room is now fairly well fixed up but for the bed, and I am thinking of buying Miss Huntingtons bed, so as to have my own. But there is no provision for Mr. French. I suppose that he can do as I did, and perhaps that is the best thing, but I was going to suggest that it might be a good plan for the College to invest in a set of furniture that should be passed on from one Tutor to another, and so not have the bother of the sale and buying again of the furniture. The things that the Browns had, too, were sold off at auction I believe, and some valuable things that I would have gladly had went into native hands at a low rate, while eventually the Missionaries will have to bring out new ones at a new price to take their place. If some means could be found of keeping the furniture in the Station, and passing it on from one to another, at least in the case of new Tutors, I think it would be a good thing.

I shall be in Marsovan this summer, and as I wrote to Mr. French, if he can plan to reach Samsoun toward the end of August, I will be glad to meet him there and have his company as far as Harput.

Miss Wilson and Miss Platt and I had a most delightful trip to Diarbekir, and Miss Wilson and I to Mardin. I was very glad to see the work in Mardin, and have put into practice some of the good things that I learned there. Among other things I was delighted with the work that they do in Gymnastics, and so, with the consent of the faculty, I have begun classes for the College boys, and they are very enthusiastic over it.

Yours sincerely,

Ernest W. Riggs

Harpoot-Turkey
May 4 1906.

Dear Mr. Page

I was very glad to see the work in Marsovan, and have put into practice some of the good things that I learned there. Among other things I was delighted with the work that they do in gymnastics, and so, with the consent of the faculty I have begun classes for the College boys, and they are very enthusiastic over it.

Yours sincerely,

Ernest W. Riggs

Rec'd JUN 11 1906

Ans'd JUN 11 1906

Harput, Turkey,
May 15, 1906

Rev James L. Barton, D. D.
Congregational House Boston , Maxs

Dear Dr. Barton:-

I wrote last week both to you and to Mr. French about the time that I would be in Marsovan, but I had not thought the thing out very thoroughly, and so set a time rather too late I fear. If Mr. French is to get here for the opening of the College year, on Sept, 12th, he must plan to leave Constantinople on Monday August the 20th at the very latest, and it would give him a chance for a little sight of Marsovan and a little rest if he left on the 18th. Leaving on Saturday the 18th he would have four days rest in Marsovan, and three days in which to get located here before he has to begin work. I am not writing again this week to Mr. French, as I suppose that you will have the arrangement of his schedule, and can notify him of my error in putting the time that he would have to be in Samsoun so late.

As to his furniture, I fear that I may have led you to think that I wanted him to supply himself with furniture for the first year here. I think that if he can bring such linen, blankets, towels etc as he will want, we can manage to beg and borrow the furniture that he will need for this year, or have it made here in the shop. Next year if he or the college wishes to purchase my furniture, that will fix him up in very good shape, for I have just added a number of Miss Huntingtons things to my present stock. Possibly too we will arrange to share a couple of rooms this year, but many think it would be well for us to live in different parts of the Dormitory.

Yours very sincerely,

Ernest W. Riggs.

P. S. Captain Young writes me that his mother-in-law, Mrs. Waite, is coming out here this fall too, and he wonders if perhaps she could not "make the entire trip" with the new Tutor. I am writing to him that it is quite possible that he may want to take in more of Europe than she would care to on this trip, but that they might very nicely come from Constantinople together. I will give him Mr. French's address, so that Mrs. Waite can write if she wishes. I trust that this will not get Mr. French into a bigger job than he wants.

E. W. R.

Harpoot, Turkey,
May 15, 1906

Rev James L. Barton, D. D.
Congregational House Boston, Mass

Dear Dr. Barton:-

I wrote last week both to you and to Mr. French about the time that I would be in Marsovan, but I had not thought the thing out very thoroughly, and so set a time rather too late I fear. If Mr. French is to get here for the opening of the College year, on Sept. 12th, he must plan to leave Constantinople on Monday August the 20th at the very latest, and it would give him a chance for a little sight of Marsovan and a little rest if he left on the 18th. Leaving on Saturday the 18th he would have four days rest in Marsovan, and three days in which to get located here before he has to begin work. I am not writing again this week to Mr. French, as I suppose that you will have the arrangement of his schedule, and can notify him of my error in putting the time that he would have to be in Samsoun so late.

As to his furniture, I fear that I may have led you to think that I wanted him to supply himself with furniture for the first year here. I think that if he can bring such linen, blankets, towels etc as he will want, we can manage to beg and borrow the furniture that he will need for this year, or have it made here in the shop. Next year if he or the college wishes to purchase my furniture, that will fix him up in very good shape, for I have just added a number of Miss Huntington's things to my present stock. Possibly too we will arrange to share a couple of rooms this year, but many think it would be well for us to live in different parts of the Dormitory.

Yours very sincerely,

Lucretia M. Gage

P. S. Captain Young writes me that his mother-in-law, Mrs. White, is coming out here this fall too, and he wonders if perhaps she could not "make the entire trip" with the new Tutor. I am writing to him that it is quite possible that he may want to take in more of Europe than she would care to on this trip, but that they might very nicely come from Constantinople together. I will give him Mr. French's address, so that Mrs. White can write if she wishes. I trust that this will not get Mr. French into a bigger job than he wants.

R. W. R.

Harpoot Turkey
May 15-1906.
Lucretia M. Gage

Rec'd APR 23 1906 248

Harput, Turkey
March 28, 1906
Ans'd APR 25 1906

Rev J. L. Barton, D. D.,
Congregational House,
Boston, Mass.

Dear Dr. Barton:-

I was greatly rejoiced last week at hearing Dr. Strong's letter about the meeting of the Board of Trustees. I was very glad that it seemed possible to find the funds to send out another tutor. I think this is a more difficult proposition than the matter of the man, perhaps. I trust the letter that I wrote you on Jan. 9th last was not lost. In it I suggested George B. Stewart, Jr., Princeton'06, who is in my mind the best man for the work that I know of. I have written to him but have not yet heard how he would look upon the proposition if it were made to him.

From Dr. Strong's letter I would gather that there are funds in the treasury to support a new man outside of my offer of half of my salary. Now if this is so I would like to make a second proposition. Of course if the funds cannot be secured outside of my offer, I want to use some of my money to bring another man out here. But if the money for that can be found wholly else-

where, I would like to use an amoumt equal to £T40. to secure the erection of a gymnasium, again if the funds cannot be found elsewhere. I think this is one of the most pressing needs of the College, and I have been working since I came to secure means of healthy exercise in other ways for the boys. I think by this mail my brother is writing to you what he did in this line some weeks ago by proposing to Mr Pashgian to give $350. toward this. I mean that Mr. Pashgian should give it! He had already offered to do something in this line and we sent him rough plans and estimates of a building of sufficient size to take a class of 150 boys at once. 50×60 ft. open floor space. Now if Mr. Pashgian balks at this sum, and if the remainder cannot be secured elsewhere, I would like to put the amount I had named into it, if necessary, if it is not needed to secure another tutor here.

I have put in a good many "ifs", and if my money is not needed in either of these places I may wait a bit and start another ball arolling in some other line. There is lots of room for improvements in many ways here that I might help in.

Your's most sincerely,

Ernest W. Riggs.

Ernest H. Riggs

Harpoot - Turkey Mar 28 - 1906.

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Rec'd SEP 10 1906

Marsovan, Turkey,
August 23, 1906.

Rev. James L. Barton, D. D.
Congregational House,
Boston, Mass.

Dear Dr. Barton:-

Your letter of June 11th came to hand some time ago. It is rather unfortunate that Mr. French and Mr Browne should have been delayed on Miss Allens account as it turned out, for it is going to be very hard to have Mr. French come in after two weeks of school, especially hard for him. However, it cannot be helped now.

My visit here at Marsovan has been a great pleasure and I have been very glad to share experiences with those teaching English here. They have decided to take up our method, the Berlitz Method, for the beginners. Seeing what fine material there is

here on the teaching force, and the fine equipment they have, makes me rather jealous. I wish that all the missionaries at Harput could be daily in contact with the College as they seem to be here. Perhaps that is impossible with the great pressure of other work that there is there to do, but I do hope that there is no doubt as to your sending out another man to take my place next year. As the money for Mr. French & for the gymnasium has been presented by alumni I would be glad to help on the expense of someone to take my place to the extent of £.T. 40, as I had offered toward Mr. French's salary. I have just been writing to a friend at Princeton to suggest to my the names of some boys who might be willing to come out, but of course he will not suggest it to them as a definite proposition, nor will I. I do think, however, that this is none too early to be thinking of it.

I have written to you about this, for I don't know to whom else to write; but when I think of the great amount of extra work which has fallen to you in the last months, I wonder if you can take the time for it. Still I know your heart is in the Harput work and will be interested.

My brother and Miss Barnum started back for Harput a week ago Monday, and my sister and I will start Wednesday the 29th. I hope the rumored quarantine on the Black Sea will not seriously delay the next party.

Yours very sincerely,

Ernest W. Riggs.

Ernest H. Riggs

Harporan - Turkey Aug. 28 - 1906.

RECEIVED
C. H. PATTON
APR 29 1907
No.....

256

E. W. Riggs

Harput, Turkey,
April 4th, 1907

Rev. Cornelius H. Patton, D.D.
Congregational House,
Boston, Mass.

Dear Dr. Patton:-

Your letter of March 12th was received today, and I will answer it at once.

I had not realised that in the absence of Dr. Barton no one at Boston knew what I was doing out here in the college, but that is, of course, a very important consideration to one who is coming out here. I say it is important, but personally I feel that the most important work to be done is not in the teaching, but rather in the influence for integrity and good character which one can have in this position.

I now teach by the Berlitz Method a class of beginners in English, and this is a great chance I feel for getting at the boys when they are most susceptible to the right influence. This takes nine and a half hours a week of class work. Then I have a second year class, three hours a week; a class in English Literature, three hours a week; a class in Bible, two hours a week, and a class in Elocution once a week.

My colleague, Mr. French, has four classes in English work of a most elementary nature. All the work that a new tutor will do here will be of the most elementary kind, for it is not as much like teaching English in an American College as it is like teaching French in one of our High Schools. But as I said before the work of the tutor is not limited to his class work. There is great opportunity for him to enter into the life of student and teacher here in many ways. I live in the Dormitory with the boys, have three gatherings in my room every week, besides having a time every morning when I am always at home, and when many come to my room for help of various kinds, enter into their athletic sports as much as my time will permit; I try, in short, to get into their lives as much as is possible, and I think that this is the most important part of the work.

In short the teaching is most elementary, and though of great importance, is, to my mind, second to the indirect work that may be done by a man of the right sort. As I look back on the past three years I see very many opportunities that I have neglected, and there were many others which I could not take up for lack of time.

I am sorry that you have been handicapped by this lack of information, and I trust that now you will be able to find the men needed.

Yours most sincerely,

Ernest W. Riggs

C. N. Agg

Harpoot Apr 4-1907

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Rec'd JAN 27 1903

Ans'd JAN 28 1903

Talas, Cesarea, Turkey, Jan.2, 1903.

Rev. James L. Barton, D.D.,
Congregational House,
Boston, Mass:

My dear Dr. Barton:

Your letter of Dec.8, regarding the invitation to Harpoot, was received by thelast mail. I had already seen your letter on the same subject to Dr. Barnum, which he forwarded to me from Harpoot, when he wrote , inviting me to come. You doubtless have, before this reaches you, learned of my decision, and of my plan to start at once for Harpoot.

In spite of the fact that the subject of my going to Harpoot had been broached before, this call to the post of President of the college came to me as such an utter surprise that I found it hard at first to weigh the question calmly. It astonished me to know that there was so strong an opinion that I could have the qualifications for the work, and it has puzzled me greatly to know what to think myself as to whether I could possibly undertake such responsibilities. I appreciate, however, the unusual situation and need at Harpoot, and while my personal preferences were very strongly in favor of refusing the call at once, I felt that I could not rightly let personal reasons decide, and after much prayer and thought it became increasingly clear to me that it was God's call, and I accordingly sent my answer to Harpoot.

Since you wrote as you did of the attitude of the Prudential Committee, and the Committee ad Interim of the Mission has telegraphed approving my going, I plan to start next Wednesday, and push on to Harpoot as rapidly as conditions at this season will permit.

I must confess that in starting for this new field and work I go with a rather heavy heart; and it is only in the assurance that He who has called me to the work will surely lead step by step in the difficult paths that are still before me, that I dare to go. I am sure that I can depend on the prayers of all the friends of the college that such may ever be that leading that directs my work there.

Yours very sincerely,

Henry H. Riggs.

Cestrea, Jan. 2, 1903

Rec'd APR 6 1903

Harpoot, Turkey. March 11, 1903.

Rev. James L. Barton, D.D.,
Congregational House,
Boston Mass, U.S.A.

Ans'd APR 10 1903

My dear Dr. Barton:

The mail that arrived last week brought me my first letters direct from America sincecoming here, and yours of Jan.29th was among them. Thank you for what you wrote, both of greeting and of suggestion as to the work.

Your suggestion that I be slow in assuming responsibilities in the work here is quite in line with my own feelings and preferences. I am very glad to take up such work as I can do, and thus relieve Dr. Barnum. But I do want to get thoroughly acquainted with the work and workers before accepting the responsibilities of the presidency. You speak, however, particularly of the Treasury work. That was the first thing that Dr. Barnum wished to turn over to me, and I have had it in hand now for some time. Before I came Dr. Barnum himself did not have that work in his own hands, but Miss Barnum did it, as Dr.B. found the details of accounts too trying for his head. My taking this work has released Miss Barnum, who is now in the touring work, which Miss Bush has been obliged to leave for the time at least. The treasury, however, is not a heavy burden, and in case I go off, as I hope to do, to visit some of the outstations, that can be temporarily carried by someone else.

As to visiting the other Stations of the Mission, I am very glad that you wrote as you have, for I feel very much the desireability of meeting some at least of the members of the mission and seeing their work, for I feel like a stranger in this mission. I hope that this summer I may be able to visit some of the Stations, and it has been suggested that I might go to the Annual Meeting, if that is held at a time when it would be possible. Besides that, I plan to spend the Easter vacation and part of the summer in visiting some of the Outstations in this field, and I hope to get to a good many of the nearer villages during the term.

Perhaps it is a little early for me to say anything of impressions as to the situation and work here. One thing that I can say, however, is

that I have found the friends here so cordial and helpful in every way as to make me feel very much at home, and very much pleased with my new home, from the very first. There will no doubt be many hard things in the work here, in fact some of the hard problems have already been presented pretty clearly, but it is worth a great deal to feel that such a group of consecrated workers are already at work, and ready to help me in the work and problems that fall to my lot.

I was very glad to hear of the action of the Prudential Committee with regard to another man for Cesarea. I trust that the right man may be found at once, and sent out at the earliest possible date. While I feel satisfied now that I have seen both places that the need here was the more pressing of the two, the need there is very urgent indeed, and I hope it can be met at once.

Yours very sincerely,

Henry H. Riggs.

Rev. Henry C. Riggs,
Harpoot, Mch 11, 1903

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Rec'd APR 28 1903

Euphrates College, Harpoot, Turkey, April 1, 1903

Rev. James L. Barton, D.D.
Congregational House,
Boston, Mass.

Ans'd APR 30 1903

My dear Dr. Barton:

I fully intended to get a letter written to you for the last mail, to acknowledge yours of Feb. 20, and also to accompany Dr. Barnum's letter regarding the needs of the College; but I was on the sick list,- a rather unusual thing for me,- and had to give up everything for a few days.

Your letter reported the action of the Trustees at their February meeting, appointing me president of the College. I wish hereby formally to express my acceptance of the appointment, and my thanks for the honor thus conferred upon me, as well as for the great opportunity for service which has been opened before me. As I have said before, I have accepted this call only because it has seemed to be the Master's leading, and in the assurance that He would continue to guide in the work He gives me to do here. If there is one principle or policy to which I trust I shall ever adhere in the administration of the College, it is this,-to seek for the Divine will and plan in all the affairs of the College, and to carry that out with all the strength and courage that He gives.

I wish to add a little to what Dr. Barnum wrote last week regarding the desirability of making an advance along several lines in the College work. I write, of course, from the standpoint of a new-comer, and would not press my own views except as such. I think, however, that most if not all of the plans suggested are plans that Dr. Gates had in mind before he left, and have the hearty endorsement of the other missionaries here.

The need that has impressed me most strongly in the college is the need for an increased and strengthened teaching force. Our teachers are too few to properly do all the teaching. They are all in the treadmill grind of constant classroom work, and have no opportunity for that broadening and progressive work that a College teacher ought to be doing. They are doing their work faithfully, patiently and with spirit, but no one feels more deeply than the teachers themselves the need for more time for study in order to bring their work up to full efficiency. We ought to have several more teachers, so as to give fewer classes to each, and

to make it possible to still further divide some of our classes, now too large for efficient work. That at least one of these additional instructors should be an American tutor seems very desirable, both for the strengthening of the English department, and for the general stimulus brought by the presence of an American young man on the teaching force.

With one or two exceptions, all our male teachers have had their entire training right here in the college, and have never had any opportunity for advanced study. If the College had the means to send some of the most promising of the teachers either to other schools in the Empire or abroad for special study, the effect on the scholarship of the College would be excellent. Before coming here I heard a good deal of criticism of the scholarship of this as compared with other Colleges in Turkey, and one count in the criticism was that almost none of the teachers had ever been outside of this immediate neighborhood. I think it is obvious that it would be a good investment for the college if some of the teachers could be relieved and sent elsewhere for advanced study. The way may not be open to send them abroad at present, but I think there is reason to hope obstacles of a political nature will be removed in course of time.

Of the need for new buildings Dr. Barnum has written fully. We have no assembly room large enough to accomodate nearly all of our pupils, to say nothing of outsiders who wish to be present on such occasions as Commencement and at general meetings. The need for removing the Primary schools from the College premises, at least in the male department, has impressed me as even more imperative. Not merely to relieve crowding and give room for the real College and Preparatory classes; to me the most cogent reason is found in the moral and intellectual influence on the students, both large and small, of being thrown all together. It does not seem conducive to the college spirit, not to say the self-respect, of a college student to be associated in the dormitory, at the table, at play and in general meetings, with children in their primers, who are recognized as his fellow students in Euphrates "College". And the younger pupils could certainly have better care and be under fuller control if separated more fully from the older students. With the natural growth that can be expected in the next few years, new buildings will have to

be erected before long anyway: putting them up now and on a site removed from our present buildings would provide for the future and at the same time be beneficial to the life of the College.

The proposition to have an Industrial and Self-Help Department is a new departure, but the need for it is very clear. The self-help feature in itself would justify a considerable outlay, for as you know, students cannot find work outside the college to earn their way as American students can, and even if work could be found it would be hard to overcome prejudice against common labor if the effort was altogether on the part of the student. I think one of the best results of a self-help department would be to show the people that it is not degrading for an educated man to take off his coat and work with his hands. But Industrial training would also do much toward the industrial reconstruction of this region. I have been astonished since coming here at the number of people who have remained dependent since the massacre;-who live on money sent them by relatives in America, and do little or nothing to support themselves. The reason they give for their idleness is that there is nothing to do. Having lost their capital and credit as merchants, they do not know how to go to work to earn a living. Industrial training in the College could reach only a few, but they could be leaders in opening up new industries and improving those already established. A bookbindery is needed for doing the work for our library, and could doubtless find patronage outside, if some materials and apparatus could be provided. With a few foot-power machines for cabinet work, plenty of work could be found along that line. A local cabinet maker said to me the other day that if such a shop were opened he would be willing to guarantee an income of £100 the first year.

We have presented these needs and openings for advance, throughyou to the Trustees, because meeting them will involve considerable outlay of money. It is a delight to know that the college finances are in such good condition at present, and have such firm foundations for future work. But I think it will not be construed as ingratitude if, in the face of such a showing we turn and ask if we may not have more.-

a larger endowment, to allow of freer expenditure for teachers and library and apparatus, and money for the new buildings and Industrial department. Now that the strain of the reconstruction period is over, and the faith, patience and self sacrifice of those who rebuilt the College from its ashes have been rewarded by the return of such great prosperity,-is not this the time for a forward movement that shall strengthen and broaden the work of the College to meet the needs of its constituency as they ought to be met.

I have been greatly impressed, since coming here, with the unique position of influence held by Euphrates College in the region. It stands alone. The people often call it "The apple of our eye". They seem to look to it as the one place where there is strength and hope for this people. The College has an opportunity such as few institutions ever have, to win for Christ and for the higher life which he brings, this whole region. Nothing greater could be wished in the way of opportunity.

I have written considerably more at length than I had planned, in this first letter on College business: I have written of things as they first impress me, and very possibly the perspective may change after longer study: but I write from the vividness of first impressions.

Yours very sincerely,

Henry H. Riggs.

Harpoot, April 1, 1903

Euphrates College, Harpoot, Turkey, April 14, 1903.

Rev. Judson Smith, D.D.,
Congregational House,
Boston, Mass., U.S.A.

My dear Dr. Smith;

I do not wish to let your letter of Jan. 28th go unanswered, though perhaps you did not expect an answer to it. I thank you for all you said in it; I am sure I also feel a strong regret that I am not to be one of your correspondents, for you are the one of the Board Secretaries with whom, ever since that journey from Samsoun to Marsovan in 1889, I have felt that I was acquainted.

I was very glad to hear that the Prudential Committee had taken such definite action toward sending another man to Cesarea. I hope the right man has been found ere this, and will go there very soon. I felt very loath to leave that station in view of the great need there, and letters from there since I left have made me very anxious that a helper should reach them as soon as possible. I trust that no hindrance will delay the sending out of a new man.

With cordial regards,

Yours very sincerely,

Henry H. Riggs.

Hon. Reginald McKenna

Harpoot April 14 - 1903

Rec'd May 12

Rec'd JUN 8 1903

Ans'd AUG 3 1903

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Euphrates College, Harpoot, Turkey, May 14, 1903.

Rev. James L. Barton, D.D.,
Congregational House,
Boston, Mass.

My dear Dr. Barton:

In the interim between two tours I am trying to get a few of my letters written up, and wish to answer yours of April 10, which was received last week. You ask for frequent reports of College matters, and I shall try to make it a point to write often, and mention matters that may seem of interest. I hope soon to be able to report an arrangement that we are planning for the Armenian Department. We have decided to ask Mr. Soghigian to take charge of that branch, with a view to becoming full professor of that department as soon as it seems best. I hope that if he will make that his specialty it will mean an advance in that branch of our work.

Acting on the recommendations of the Trustees and Prudential Committee I have begun to visit the outstations of this field. During the last part of April I went with Miss Bush to Arghuni Maden, Arghuni, Chermouz and Choonkoosh. The trip was a delightful one from the point of view of the traveler, fine weather most of the time, magnificent scenery, good accomodations and pleasant company. It was also for me an excellent health measure and restored completely what I had lost in my little tilt with rheumatism. As regards the work, however, the impressions of the trip were not altogether unmixed. They tell me that is the most discouraging part of the whole field, now, and I hope it is so. The desolation and destitution of the communities that we visited was a great surprise to me, though I have seen a good deal of other parts of Turkey. The massacres and the subsequent exodus to America have wrought far more havoc in this region than I had ever realized.

All the places visited were without schools or preachers. At one place a young man had been sent as teacher, but they have been unable to get a permit for a school, so the teacher can do very little. The people in each place plead pitifully for helpers, and in some places seem to feel bitter against the missionaries for not sending them. They all plead especially for ordained workers who could administer the sacraments and perform marriage ceremonies. Their feeling with regard to the former shows very strongly the strong hold the older ideas still have on them. They all hold to general baptism, and their own pastors in former times have encouraged that practice: so that when there was opportunity for baptisms during my visits, children were not presented because I could

not consent to baptize indescriminately all comers. I do not think that there was any bad feeling in the matter. They merely felt that as I showed such partiality in the matter it would be better to let the matter rest till someone should come who would be less particular.

Personally I feel that what I learned and experienced on this tour fully justified it, as a profitable preparation for my especial work. The crying need for workers is something I never saw so clearly before, and as the preparation of such workers is so large a part of our business I am glad to have seen the need myself. But more important than that is what I learned of the kind of workers needed. What seemed to be the need of those communities is not so much instruction as new life. Spiritual, much more than intellectual leadership is what will save those churches. Theoretically I knew this before, but the vividness with which it was brought home to me at this time will largely influence my future work; with God's help my effort will be more distinctly to win these students to a vital, spiritual Christian life, and send them out to work in the Master's strength.

I confess that the general impression I gained on this tour was very discouraging as to the future of our work. Those who have been here longer feel quite differently, so I hope my impression may change as I understand the situation more fully. But the impression, from what I saw and from what I have seen of the native workers available and the spirit that seems to prevail among many of them, is of a real danger that these Protestant communities will sink back to a condition which differs only in name from that of their neighbors in the old church. I write this frankly to you, for you are familiar with the field, and know just how to discount the first impressions of a new man. I feel more than ever the opportunity we have in the College of fostering real spiritual life that shall tell in all these outstations. If we can send out young men and women who are really born anew, they will have wonderful influence in renewing life in the communities where they go.

I expect to start off again tomorrow for Chemishgezek, Egin, Arabkir, and that region, to be gone two weeks. Then after Commencement I hope it will be possible for me to go to Van, calling on the way at a good many stations and outstations, besides attending the Mission Meeting.

Very sincerely yours,

Henry H. Riggs.

Rev. H. H. Riggs,

Harpoot, May 14, 03

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Rec'd JUL 7 1903
Ans'd JUL 31 1903

Euphrates College, Harpoot, Turkey, June 8, 1903.

Rev. James L. Barton, D.D.,
Congregational House,
Boston, Mass;

My dear Dr. Barton;

I have at hand your letters of April 24 and May 1. The former was with regard to the new Constitution of the College, of which you also sent me several copies. I have studied it with interest, and am well pleased with it. The matter of a local Board of Managers has been taken up by the station, and the majority of the board have alreay been elected. There is no indication in the constitution of the kind of persons who are to make up the Board, beyond the President and the Principal of the female department. You have suggested that as far as possible native interest and cooperation be enlisted in the work of the college, and we have the same wish here. Accordingly it was decided that three members of the board should be natives, for the present. We have not as yet notified any of the three of their election; in fact, we have not fully decided who the third shall be, as we wished to ask the Professors to nominate someone for the place. I hope those elected will consent to serve, and will help us to keep in touch with the native friends. I remember, however, the experience at Marsovan, where the native members of the Board of managers asked to be excused from duty, fearing that it might draw suspicion upon them.

At present the city is in the greatest fear. For a week the Police have been searching houses, and a good many Armenians have been arrested, among them one of our professors. The Turks are in a very irritable condition, and are promising another massacre, though that is not probable if the officials in higher circles are firm. The poor Christians are in a panic, not knowing what to expect next. It seems to be a rather more critical time than any of the numeroos panics that have arisen of late years, and I must confess that conditions are not very comfortable. The reason for the trouble seems to be that the Vali and the Kaimakam are both away, and their subordinates, who are in control at this time, are bad men, who hope to gain something by appearing to find trouble and stamp it out.

I had a most interesting trip to the Arabkir and Egin region. It is a region where there is much more of prosperity in many ways than in the district covered by my former trip, and the impression left upon my mind was on the whole rather more optimistic. Still, that region too

shows the great need of more workers. A few young men, none of them with theological training, are the only ones to preach the gospel in the chapels.-I should make this exception, however, that in one or two places we found that members of the churches are supplying the pulpits in the absence of regular preachers or teachers. The places visited were Chemishgezek, Arabkir, Shepik, Egin, and Aghun. Mr.Melcon Benneyan, who is assistant Station treasurer in charge of orphan work went with me, Miss Bush also going to Chemishgezek.

Only a little over two weeks remain before Commencement. As this is the 25th anniversary of the founding of the College, it would be pleasant to make it an occasion of some public interest; but instead of that, the conditions about us make it necessary to keep our closing exercises as quiet as possible, if we have any at all. It is hard to be laboring under such misapprehension and suspicion. If the officials could know how much care we exercise to keep out of our school every semblance of disloyalty or disorder, they would support and help us, rather than hamper and annoy us. And it takes a good deal of faith to go on laying plans for enlarged educational work, with conditions as uncertain as they are at present. However, it is God's work, and our trust is in Him. We hoped last week that the panic would soon blow over, but conditions have grown worse rather than better. The Vali is expected to return tonight, howeverb and I hope that he will be able to quiet the people and put a stop to the disturbing proceedings of his subordinates.

In your letter of May first you speak of mine of a month previous, together with Hr.Barnum's of about the same date, and the plans for the future contained therein. One item in those plans I should especially like to have carried out at once, if it is at all possible. An American tutor this coming year is a good deal to ask, but I wonder if one could be secured. The plan of having a man sent out by some College in America is one that is not easy to carry out continuously, even if it can be started successfully. My own College, Carleton, is already supporting its own missionary, and I do not know where else to look. I hope that sooner or later such tutors can be supported from the regular funds of the College. But I wish that it might bepossible for the coming year. If the funds of the College will allow of such an expenditure, cannot the right man be found this summer and sent out? It is hard for us to do anything at such long range; if I had assurance that the money would be forthcoming I would write to friends at Carleton, Princeton and Auburn to try and find the right sort of a man. But perhaps you and the Trustees will have no difficulty in finding the man, if the funds are available. Yours very sincerely,

Henry H. Riggs.

Rev. Henry T. Riggs
Hartford June 8, 1903

AUG 1903
AUG 17 1903

12 copies

copies to Trustees

Ans'd SEP 23 1903

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Euphrates College. Harpoot, Turkey. July 22. 1903

Rev. J. L. Barton, D.D.,
Congregational House,
Boston, Mass:

My dear Dr. Barton:

It is a long time since I wrote to you about College Matters, and it is high time that I did so, to report the closing of the College year, and a good many matters of interest. I believe that it is customary at this time to write a report of the work of the College year; I am hardly in a position to do that, having come in at the middle of the year. Perhaps this letter, giving some of the facts and impressions of this time, will take the place of a more formal report.

I wrote you last time of the formation of the Board of Managers for the College. The members of the board are as follows, in addition to the president and Miss Daniels, Principal of the Female Department, who are members ex officiis; Mr. E. F. Carey, Miss E. M. Parnum, Mr. G. P. Knapp, Miss T. L. Huntington, Mr. Hagop Danigian, Mr. Hagop Andonian, Dr. H. N. Parnum. A third native member has not yet been elected, as it was thought best to ask the College Professors to nominate someone for that position. In so doing, and in electing native members to the Board, it is hoped to bring our native friends into closer sympathy with the management of the college, and to make them feel a responsible interest in its affairs. I may say in this connection that the two native members already elected, one a layman and the second a pastor, have cordially accepted the responsibility, and by presence at meetings and thoughtful participation in the discussions and decisions have, to my mind, abundantly justified the action of the Station in electing them.

The Board of Managers has held two meetings, at which teachers were elected and salaries fixed for the coming year. Very few changes were at first expected in the teaching force, only one of our teachers, Haduell Pedros Hachadourian, being expected to leave us. He goes to take up work as a preacher again, though his location has not as yet been fixed. But since our first meeting three of the teachers have begun making plans to leave the country if they can, so that we may have to make other changes. The increase in our classes has been so great that we expect to divide the Freshman class, and the Third Varjaran class this coming year, which will necessitate additional teachers. The Board has voted to invite one of the Graduates of Euphrates College, of this year's class, Mr. Sarkis Kevorkian, and to try to secure a graduate of

Anatolia College, both to teach in our primary schools. It was also voted to ask Dr. Gates to engage a teacher of French to come out this fall. This last was a rather important step, as it would involve some increase of outlay; it seemed wise to take the step, however, in view of the desire for thorough work in French in this country, and because we have hitherto had no one who had learned French by actual use among French-speaking people. The decision was hastened by the fact that Prof. Tenekejian, who has had charge of the French work is in prison, with no definite assurance of an early release; and his assistant is one of those planning to leave us if he can get out of the country. I have written asking Dr. Gates to secure a French tutor, and as we have already been in correspondence with him about it, I think we have reason to hope that we may see him here and at work this fall.

We have asked Mr. Karabed Soghigian, who is our senior teacher except the Professors, to take charge of the department of the Armenian Language and Literature, and he has accepted the work. At present he is not called a professor, and has not the full professor's salary; but if he is successful in this work this coming year, I shall propose to the Board of Managers that he be elected Professor of the Armenian department. It is not, strange to say, a popular department, and it is at some sacrifice that Mr. Soghigian decides to devote himself to it. I hope that he will be able to push his work into the prominence that it ought to have in this College.

The increasing size of the classes in all departments this year makes it necessary for us to provide for the probable increase for the coming year. Even if no additional students come this coming fall, the classes now coming up from the lower grades will so crowd our High School that we must have more room. We accordingly plan to move the Manjaran (Primary School) from its present quarters in the basement of the high school, thus giving place for the larger high school classes. The Manjaran will be obliged this year to occupy rented quarters, which we hope to secure not far from our own grounds. In discussing this situation, the need of new quarters for both Primary and Grammar schools has become more evident than ever, and it is the desire of the Board of Managers that a building for that purpose be provided as soon as may be. The Board voted that the matter be presented again to the Board of Trustees, urging that steps be taken to secure funds for such a building. No time was fixed for the erection of new buildings, but in view of the delays incident to building in this country it is very desirable that the first steps be taken at once, and as soon as possible permission to build be applied for, if the funds are to be forthcoming.

You have doubtless heard from others of the events of the closing weeks of College. The arrest of Professor Tenekejian, the threats and suspicion regarding the College, and the general condition of fear and unrest in this region, cast a cloud over the College, and the closing exercises passed off without very much enthusiasm. At the request of the teachers, and at the desire of outsiders as well, the exercises of Commencement week were not open to the public, and outsiders were not invited, with the exception of the parents of the graduates. Some of our pupils, and our alumni and teachers, constituted an audience about as large as our hall would accomodate, so that the exercises were not without interest, though pretty quiet. Eleven were graduate from the male and two from the female department of the College, and unusually large classes from the lower schools.

Another fact that rather threw a shadow over the school was that some cases of immorality and political folly on the part of our pupils called for investigation, which resulted in the suspension of several boys. It is a little thought to us that these boys could not be won, instead of driven out, and we of course feel that some at least of the family lies witness. I think that the influence of the cases of disciplin has been to make the teachers feel more deeply the responsibility of their work, along spiritual lines. Personally I feel that that is our greatest problem, how to make the spiritual influences in the College strong enough to win our pupils to a real Christian life. The great number of our pupils and the variety of their ages, constitute an element of difficulty that is peculiar to this institution. We are planning for a system of personal oversight on the part of teachers, each teacher being responsible for a class; and an organization of the different religious meetings for unity of effect: but after all the important need is for spiritual power in the teachers and Christian students, and I know you are praying that that may be granted to us and to our helpers. It is with strong hopes of better things that I look forward to the coming year; for God is able to make it a year of rich blessing, and the opportunity is almost unlimited.

You have heard of our disappointment in regard to the Van Meeting. Some of us who are younger were a little inclined to protest against accepting the interference of the Government, but on the whole it seemed the wisething to do. I think if we had know just how things were coming out we should have gone, in spite of the Grand Vizier, but it is too late now, and regrets are useless. For myself, there has been so much to do in the way of repairs and preparations for next year, that I do not

see how it could have got accomplished if I had gone to Van.

Mr.Carty and I are now planning to take a trip into the Seghi region, starting next week and spending two weeks at it. The Kurds in that region are in a state of war, but they seem to be interested in fighting eachother, and do not appear to be looking for trouble with outsiders. This trip will complete the most of the large towns of our field, and if I can take a trip to Diarbekir and Mardin next winter, I shall have a pretty fair idea of the field and one sister station.

I cannot close without a word about Dr.Farnum, who says that with this vacation he lays down the duties of Acting President. It is hard to express my feelings in regard to what he has done for me, in initiating me into my new work. It seems as if all thought of his own work had dropped out of sight, and he has done what no one else possibly could do to make the beginning of my service here pleasant and satisfactory. He has stood ever ready to help in whatever I was puzzled about, and at the same time has pressed upon me, as fast as I was willing to take it, the responsibility that hitherto has been his. He has made what I had anticipated would be an exceedingly hard experience for me very much easier, and if the work of these first months is spared from many mistakes, it will be in large measure due to his wisdom. Someone who knew said the other day that "Dr.Farnum is a man who has made fewer mistakes than any other missionary in this mission." Now he has laid most of the responsibility on me, and I suppose I shall be nominally at the head, I shall depend much on his judgement and advice. I trust for many years to come, Euphrates College owes much to Dr.Farnum. This is not belittling what others have done in the same line, though in a less conspicuous degree.

The mail is going, and this letter is full long enough. I remain with cordial regards,

Yours very sincerely,

Henry H. Riggs

Rev. H. H. Hayes,

Harpoot, July 22, 1903

To Mr. Peet (Copy.)

Harpoot, Turkey, August 19th, 1908.

The great sensation of the week has been the trial of the thirty five prisoners arraigned on the charge of sedition. The thirty five include several in whom we are interested, Prof. Tenekejian and one of our recent graduates among others. The past ten days have been taken up with a review of the testimony gathered by the local court from and concerning the prisoners, and the trial has developed some startling and sensational facts. One curious fact about the trial is that so far as I know the prisoners are the only witnesses in the case. And when confronted with the testimony which then are said to have given here in Harpoot, they pretty uniformly deny having given it, or at least deny what they said. Then each prisoner is allowed to tell how he was arrested and examined, and the testimony sounds a good deal like the story of the Inquisition. Almost if not quite all the prisoners, including Prof. Tenekejian, testified to having been beaten, tortured, threatened with death and other nameless horrors, to make them testify to the propositions which were presented to them. One favorite method of torture was for days together to keep the prisoners awake constantly. This was what drove Prof. Tenekejian into temporary insanity. He testified that for some days the men who guarded him would not let him sleep, threatening him with loaded guns when he got drowsy. Then when the prisoner was worn almost to madness he was urged to sign the desired testimony. The man who was first arrested, and was the principal witness in the case told a story that would make a pretty good story of horror for a dime novel. He was threatened, beaten, abused and tortured, and then his wife was beaten almost to death before him, to get him to give evidence against various prominent individuals, among them the Professor, to the effect that they were members of a revolutionary committee. At last the man was so used up by the torture that he went into a sort of a fit, and the police thought he was going to die on their hands; so they threw him out of a window, thinking to get rid of the results of their misdeeds. When they brought him up and found he was not dead, but only had two legs broken, they told him he must corroborate their story that he jumped from the window in trying to escape; that if he did they would see to it that he was handsomely pensioned, but if he would not they would kill him. All the testimony in the case seems to be of the same sort, all secured under torture. The testimony against the perpetrators of the horror is overwhelming, and yet the villains strut about the streets, and seem to anticipate no trouble at all. One, I should say, the Chief of Police

for the Vilayet, has gone to meet the Just Judge. He died suddenly after the first day or two of the trial, and people say it was from fear of the results of the damning testimony.

At the beginning of the trial some of the prisoners were examined for evidences of torture by the Government doctors, but the report of the doctors was hushed up, and was not given in court, so the prisoners got together and petitioned that they might be examined by the physicians; as the petition was presented in court I guess the doctors will have to make some sort of a report, and unless they lie frightfully, it will be rather damaging to the prosecution.

In course of the evidence the other day, one of the prisoners testified that he had been pressed to testify that the American Dr. Barnum had assisted in the importation of arms. As Dr. Barnum was sitting there in court at the time, it was an interesting situation. The Turks are greatly annoyed by the presence of Dr. Barnum and the Dragomans of the two Consulates, (American and British) at the trial each day. It seems to hamper their freedom of action. I have been loath to believe it, but I have been convinced at last, that in this whole affair there is a strong effort being made to prejudice the central Government against us at Constantinople; and it is said here that the Turks are most anxious to fasten some blame on the persons connected with our Schools. This, together with the recent attempt to set fire to the College, makes our feeling among our Turkish neighbors not altogether trustful and restful.

Yours truly,

(Signed) H. H. Riggs.

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Rec'd SEP 29 1903

Euphrates College, Harpoot, Turkey, Sept. 3, 1903.

Ans'd OCT 8 1903

Rev. J. L. Barton, D.D.,
Congregational House,
Boston, Mass.

My dear Dr. Barton:

Your letter came last week and it was too late to try to write an answer for that mail, and now it has got crowded out so that this will have to be rather brief. We are in the midst of the last preparations for the opening of the College next Wednesday, and it is a very busy time.

Your letter, dated Aug. 1, contained the news, for which we had almost ceased to hope, that you are planning for an American tutor for us this year. We shall wait eagerly to hear that a man has been found and is coming out, as you hoped. If he comes, he will bring great additional strength to our English work, and will doubtless help out along other lines also. Just at present, with Prof. Tenekejian laid aside, the teaching force is pretty heavily loaded. If we had any assurance as to his probable fate, one way or the other, it would be easier to plan our work. As it is, with the hope that he may be released at any time, we have simply divided his work up among the different teachers, as a temporary arrangement. If it becomes evident that he is to be kept from his work permanently or for a term of years, we shall of course have to take other steps to fill his place, but I am very loath to even consider that as a possibility.

The reports which you heard of the death of Prof. Tenekejian were of course unfounded, but his story of what he did suffer in the Harpoot prison have shown that he fared far worse than we at the time knew. We are very thankful to know that you are pressing the case in America, and we hope that the pressure will be felt here eventually. It does not seem to have reached here yet, however, and the professor is in pretty miserable quarters meanwhile. The room in the prison where he is confined with a crowd of common criminals, is alive with vermine and when I sent him a cot-bed, to relieve him somewhat from that suffering, the prison authorities would not let him have it. I am afraid that the polite assurances of the authorities that he would be treated well and his case hastened, have been given more weight in Constantinople than they deserved,- in fact even here we were led to believe that such promises had been fulfilled.

We are waiting now for word from Dr. Gates as to whether he has succeeded in securing for us a French teacher. If do not get such

a man, we shall have to provide for the French work as best we can, which will not be an easy matter, under the circumstances.

All of the plans, for teachers from abroad and for enlarged work here, look at present like spreading sail in squally weather: our Minister in Constantinople has been reported as saying some things which are not at all calculated to inspire confidence in the future;- but we are trying our best to follow the leading of the One who can see the future, and I believe he will not allow any serious mistakes to be made.

I have not reported to you the trip Mr. Carey and I took to the Geghi region. Possibly he has. It was a most interesting trip, through about the most turbulent country I have ever been in. At Geghi we were treated in a rather high-handed manner by the local officials, forbidden to preach, or to visit Tamran, and kept under strict surveillance by the police. An appeal to Erzroum, together with some pretty plain words to the Kaimakam as to the gravity of his offence, brought him to terms, and the last part of our stay we were treated with all courtesy, and allowed to do our work unhindered. In othnr places also we saw signs of suspicion and hostility which I think are not without significance. I feel satisfied now, of what I was at first unwilling to believe, that these various political annoyances are symptoms of a far-reaching movement against our work, in this region at least.

I appreciate the difficulties which these matters add to your already heavy burdens, and we all feel thankful for all that you are doing for us. It is a great help to us also to hear the expressions of sympathy and interest at this trying time that come from so many friends in America.

Yours very sincerely,

Henry H. Riggs.

Rev. Henry S. Riggs,

Hartford, Sept. 3, 1903

Rec'd OCT 17 1903

Ans'd NOV 14 1903

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Euphrates College, Harpoot, Turkey, Sept.23, 1903

Rev.James L. Barton, D.D.,
Congregational House,
Boston, Mass.

My dear Dr.Barton;

You will doubtless wish to hear something of the opening of the College year. It is two weeks since the opening day, and work has fairly settled down to its regular routine. There have been no specially noticeable features in the beginning of our work. The absence of Prof.Tenekejian lays heavy burdens on some others, as we have divided up his work, instead of getting someone to fill his place. Of course some of those who have taken his work have had to be relieved of other duties, and the division of two of our classes has necessitated more teaching force in the male department. Including Prof.Tenekejian, there are twenty-one native teachers in the Male Department, and the female teachers number sixteen.

The attendance in the schools as a whole has fallen off considerably, as compared with last year, but the loss has been entirely in the primary and intermediate grades. Two causes explain the falling off, I think; first, the number of orphans attending our schools has been reduced by about a hundred by a new arrangement in the orphanages; and second, the political storm about us has made some difference in the readiness of parents to send their children. This is especially true in the boys'boarding department, where the nuber is only 49, as against 73 last fall. It is almost impossible to secure tezkeres now, so it is natural that the number of boys from a distance should fall off. The enrolment thus far is as follows.

	College,	High School,	Grammar School,	Primary,	Sub-Primary &Kindergarten.	To-tal
Male	67	130	151	68	53	469
Female	53	85	80	120	41	379
Totals	120	215	231	188	94	848

Probably a few more late-comers will be added, and several are hoping to drop out soon if the obstacles in the way of their leaving for America can be removed.

This being my first year here, I cannot compare the outlook with that of former years, but there seems to me to be in general an earnest and serious spirit among students and teachers. The continued imprisonment and serious peril of Prof.Tenekejian has of course its sobering influence on the whole College, and I hope that the experiences of the past few months will be an effective preventative of any tendency toward political folly. We are all hoping and praying, too, that the

thoughts of all may be turned more toward spiritual things, and that this may be a year of strong work along that line. I trust that our friends in America, while they bear us up in prayer because of the political dangers that seem to surround us, will not forget our greater need, in view of the hundreds of souls that are put into our hands at this time.

I am seeing more clearly than ever the need for something in the way of industrial work to give opportunity for self-help for poor boys. We are beginning on the book-binding industry, which already has something of a start among the students. Beyond an old-style cutting machine we have nothing in the way of outfit, but I think we can make some tools and appliances, and begin work on a modest scale, and some time soon I hope we may have what is needed to set up a well-appointed bindery. The idea of a cabinet shop, however, is my pet plan, and I shall not rest till we have something that offers as broad a field as that does for industrial work. I am writing this week to a gentleman of some means with whom I am acquainted, to try and interest him in the project. To start anything of that sort a new building is needed, and to do good work machinery is indespensible. $1500 would start us out very nicely, I think, though of course much more could be put into a useful plant. But even if the money is not to be found, I think we must make a start with what we can do here, for the need for industrial work for our students is very great.

The male missionary force in a body went this afternoon to call on the new Vali. He is a man pretty well spoken of, and looks as if he might be capable. We shall see how he succeeds in straightening out the snarl in which he finds the vilayet. The trial in Mezere has resumed this week; it is very evident that no pains will be spared by the Turks to convict the prisoners if possible, and threats and intimidation are said to be used on witnesses to bring forth the desired sort of testimony.

Letters from Dr. Gates report that no French tutor is forthcoming this year, though he has done all that could be done to find one. Our appeal went so late that it was impossible in the summer season to find a man. I hope another year we may be more successful, by starting at it earlier. We are all waiting for word from our new recruits; word has as yet come of the decision of Mr. Hubbel, or of Miss Wilsons ling. I hope they are both on their way toward Harpoot.

With sincere regards,

Yours very truly,

Henry H. Riggs.

Rev. Henry A. Rogers
Sept 1st 1861
Newton

Rec'd DEC 7 1903

Ans'd DEC 10 1903

Euphrates College, Harpoot, Turkey, Nov. 11, 1903.

Rev. J.L.Barton, D.D.,
Congregational House,
Boston, Mass.

My dear Dr. Barton;-

I have your two letters of Sept. 24 and Oct.9 to acknowledge., but have very limited time in which to write this week. Your last letter asks for a report of the college for publication along with reports of other colleges, and I have taken the matter in hand but fear it will not get into this mail. I shall try to write such reports from time to time, as you ask, and if at any time you wish more than I write, I hope that you will be sure that I am ready to serve the college in that way as well as in any other.

There are two matters of which I wish especially to write this evening, and of others I will try to write next week. The first is the matter of the Theological Seminary. Mr. Carey has already written to you of the matter, and I need not go into the arguments that I presume he has presented. I only wish to say that I have become thoroughly converted to the idea of having a Theological class here this next year, and that I feel very strongly that the work should be undertaken at all costs. Two things have led me to feel this so strongly. One is that the efforts that were made to get a class to Marsovan have utterly failed this year, and the difficulties in the way were not <u>only</u> the difficulty of getting Tezkeres. I mean to say that the distance of either Marsovan or Marash, and the difficulty and danger of going to a new vilayet, even with a tezkere, are so great as to discourage a great many who are not fully determined to enter the ministry, whereas a Seminary here would attract some such. This sort of an argument did not appeal to me so strongly at first, but after seeing the attitude taken by so many of our most earnest men, I feel almost in despair of getting young men to enter this work unless the way is made pretty easy.

The other is that the pastors feel so very strongly the need and duty of taking up regular Theological training again. Mr. Carey and I have had some very plain talks with some of them, and I think we understand eachother better now, although, as perhaps you have heard, we felt at the time of our closing exercises for the training class, that they had done the last thing to block the way to cooperation and sympathy. I think that there is nothing that can be

be done that would do more toward establishing confidence and friendliness with the pastors than to carry out fully and cordially their wish in this matter of a Theological class. Not that I have any rose-colored dreams of perfect harmony at once. That will, I think require either a miracle or a funeral or two, well selected. Mr Carey and I have had some conference with the pastors, in which the situation has been talked over rather fully. This afternoon they said very frankly that the reason that they have acted in such a discourteous way about our training class is not that they have anything against the members of the class, but that they do not wish by countenancing that class to encourage us in our policy(!) of having no full Theological training. It is rather humiliating to appear to be forced by such action, but there are worse things than being humiliated.

As to the very important and practical problem of the manning of the Seminary, I think that Mr.Carey has written fully. I only want to add that I am fully in sympathy with his plans, and believe that he is the right man to have a large share of the teaching. The general suspicion of his Theological soundness has arisen largely, I think, from misunderstandings, as it is not inhis nature to guard what he says, and he rather enjoys shocking people. And the rest of the suspicion is on the part of those, who are not a few among our native pastors, who still regard the theory of Evolution as a damnable heresy invented to undermine the faith of the church. Any man who is at all outspoken will incur the distrust of that class, I fear. I think that Dr.Barnum is rather reluctant on account of the general feeling about Mr.Carey to have him known as the teacher of Theology here, but in other departments I think he will support him cordially.. Of my share in the work, I would be very glad to take it up, if we can have a tutor from America for the College.

The second matter of which I wish to write is the matter of the Tutor: you ask if I know of anyone whom I could recommend for the place. I have hesitated a good deal to ask to have my own brother sent here, as there is a is some objections on theoretical grounds to having two brothers in the same station. But I have a brother of whom I am proud, and who would be a great help to me personally, and I am sure would do good work in the college, if he should come out here. I have talked the matter over with Dr. Barnum and with Mr.Carey, and they are both very cordial in approving of his coming here, so I suggest him to you, and would like to say that I should be very glad if he could be invited to come here, to teach in the college for a short time.

DEC 8 1903

My brother, Ernest W. Riggs, is a Senior at Princeton, add has his face set toward work in the foreign mission field. He has recently written to me asking me whether I would recommegd his taking a few years out in some other work before taking up his Theological course, as both My brother Charles and I did. He is twenty-two years old,-or will be when he graduates, and I am writing to him that in my own case the time spent in Marsovan was well invested, and that I would recommend a similar course to him if he feels drawn to it. I am also writing to him rather fully of the need here, and telling him that I should write to you suggesting that he be invited to come here. I explained to him that the engaging of a tutor was in your hands, and that it was quite possible that you had secured someone ere this, but he will expect to hear from you in case no one has been found and you look favorably on the idea of his coming.

I am not at all sure that he would decide to accept such a call, but at present he is looking about, and I hope that he would be drawn to this sort of work. As there is naturally a discount on the testimony of relatives, I will not undertake to enumerate his strong points, but leave you to find those out from his teachers and other friends. I do not wish to use my position to further ends that are strictly personal, but I believe that to have my brother Ernest here as a tutor for two or three years would be not merely a personal gratification to me, but a beneficial arrangement for the college, as well.

Ernest's address is Murray-Dodge Hall, Princeton, N.J.

The trial of Prof. Tenekejian has again suffered serious interruption, owing to a clash between the authorities of this vilayet and those of Sivas, and there is some fear that it may have to be referred to Constantinople, which might mean a delay of a year or more.

You have perhaps learned that a meeting of the Harpoot Evangelical Union is to be held next week, the first in two or three years. We are earnestly hoping that it may result in good for the work of the churches and the cooperation of the native with the missionary workers.

I shall hope next week to send the paper you ask for regarding the college.

Yours very sincerely,

Henry H. Riggs.

Harpoot, Oct. 11, 1903

Rec'd DEC 17 1903

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Euphrates College, Harpoot, Turkey, Nov. 19, 1903.

Rev. J. L. Barton, D.D.,
Congregational House, Boston.

My dear Dr. Barton;-

I am very sorry indeed not to fulfil my promise of last week to send to you this week the statement of college matters for publication for which you asked. It has been quite impossible for me to get at it this week, for my time has been taken by other matters, even to the neglect of my regular class work. Part of this extra work has been in preparation for the meeting of the Union, which began its sessions yesterday. We have been trying to pave the way for the resumption of practical cooperation, and have felt that that was of so much importance as to warrant the neglect of other work.

Then this week I have given a good deal of time to the effort,-unsuccessful thus far, to get Prof. Tenekejian released on bail. His trial has again been suspended, and things look rather discouraging, as the fault now lies with the Department of Justice in Constantinople, and that is rather hard to reach.

I think that I can promise that, barring sickness or other disaster, I can certainly send the paper next week. Yours very sincerely,

Henry H. Riggs.

Harpoon, Nov. 19, 1903

ABS'N DEC 22 1903

My dear Dr.Barton;-

As the mail is called for sooner than expected, I have only time to send along this paper, which I trust you can use in some form. It has been written rather hastily, and I shall be glad to have you do any editing you see fit on it. I hope you will do so with the historical part, for I have not had very much to base that on, and had to ask Dr.Barnum for practically all of it. The three lines crossed off on the last page did not meet with the approval of the sensor, or rather did not look as if they would, so they were struck out, but I have no time to recopy before the mail goes.

Yours very sincerely,

Henry H. Riggs.

Harpoot, Nov. 26. 1903.

Harpoot, Nov. 26, 1903

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Rec'd JAN 7 1904

Euphrates College, Harpoot, Turkey, Dec. 8 1903.

Ans'd JAN 27 1904

Rev. James L. Barton, D.D.
Congregational House,
Boston, Mass.

My dear Dr. Barton;-

I have been intending for some time to write you rather fully of some things that have been happening lately, but perhaps of some of them you have heard fully enough from other sources. Of the meeting of the Union, I think that Dr. Barnum has written to you in detail. It was a meeting which we all dreaded a good deal, as there have been unseemly things in the past, and the spirit of the native friends did not seem, to me at least, such as to warrant much hope of better things this time. I must confess that the same dread continued in my feelings for most of the time that the meetings were in session, for the difficulties in the case are personal, and not matters of principal that can be settled once for all. We all feel, however, that the many prayers that were offered for the meeting were remarkably answered, and the results of the meeting seem to be altogether very good.

Last Saturday I went to be present at the services at Ichme, where the new pastor was installed. Four other pastors were present, and the day was really a very profitable one for all concerned. As you know, there has been some pretty strong feeling on the part of the Ichme people against the Union as represented by the few pastors of this region, but the cordiality with which we parted yesterday showed that the feeling has been quite swept away, and I hope that a new sympathy and cooperation will result among the native churchs as well as between natives and foreigners. In fact the impression that I received on this trip and elsewhere recently is that thereis on the human side more ground to hope for new life among our churches than there has been before, and we are earnestly praying that the new lifemay come with power, and reach many during this winter.

Last week we held a meeting of the Board of Managers of the College, and transacted some business that had been accumulating for some time. Most important amont the things decided was to invite to this college Mr. Margot of Sivas, to become Professor of French. Mr. Margot held that position in Marsovan till he was called to his present work in the orphanage in Sivas. The action in inviting him was taken very unanimously, as it is felt by all that if he can be secured it will mean not only a strengthening of that department, but a help in the whole life of the college, as he is a man of experience in this country, and of earnest Christian character and purpose. I think there is good reason to hope that he will accept the invitation, though he has not yet at all committed himself, and the answer to the formal invitation has not yet come.

At the same meeting the subject of industrial work was discussed, and I laid before the Board the plans that I have been making along that line. It was decided to use the necessary funds to establish a book-bindery for the use of students. Hitherto the rebinding of old books for the Library and for others has been done by anyone who happened to wish to do it, and has been rather unsatisfactory by reason of the lack of appliances and materials. We plan to fit up a little room with such machines and appliances as we can get from time to time, and in time I hope we shall have an industry that will be of no small value. Just now we shall not spend much for machinery, but make some presses, etc., and buy materials to start the work with. we very much need a cutting machine and some other machinery that is necessary to a well appointed bindery, and if you find anyone who wants to make us a present of anything of that sort, I am sure that it will be appreciated. There is here an old style cutting table, which is perhaps better than cutting by hand, but it is not very satisfactory.

Of the matter of a cabinet shop, I think that I wrote you in a former letter that I have written to an acquaintance in New York, trying to get the funds to start that work in good shape. I have not yet had any reply. The Board approved the plans, and the location selected for the shop, which is just below the Dormitory building,-to the south-west. The old house on that spot is now in a very risky condition, and had it not been for this plan I should have torn it down this fall; as it was it will wait till spring in the hope that then we can tear it down and rebuild without loss.

The question of the proposed building for the Primary Schools was also discussed and a committee appointed to consider the best location and to draw up plans. The building now occupied by the Mangaran is in a fine location, and if we can get that at a reasonable price I think that will perhaps be the best plan, for though the building is old, and will not meet our needs as it is, the timber and stone could be used to very good advantage in a reconstructed building. It is the last house on the right on the street that runs west from in front of the premises. Real estate is very low now, and if we had the money I should be strongly inclined to buy that building as soon as we can get reasonable terms on it. What would you think of it? Perhaps that would be a subject that ought to be presented to the meeting of The Trustees in February.

The case of Professor Tenekejian has reached a point where it seems as if there was nothing more to be done here, and it is very trying to sit and wait for the knot to be untied in Constantinople. I am inclined to think that it has now reached the highest circles in Constantinople, and is mixed up with the general question of our schools there. This, however is only a guess.

I trust that you received in due time the report that I sent you two weeks ago. You ask also for a report to be presented to the Board of Trustees

at their meeting in February. Though you asked me to send it some time in December, I think I will take the liberty to hold it till the first mail in January, so that I may incorporate in it some general statement of the finances of the College for the year, after the books are closed.

Soon after that time I think I will prepare the copy for a somewhat more elaborate report and Catalogue. This I shall send to you, and if you or the Board of Trustees see fit, I hope it may be published for circulation.

I have just this afternoon been to see a piece of land which is to be willed to the College and Orphanages by its owner, whom you perhaps know, Haiajan Varbed, the head workman here. It has been rented for some time by the orphanages, and it is the desire of the owner that after his death it shall be used by the orphanages as long as needed and then revert to the College. The land is a fine garden at Kesrik. It is cheering to have such gifts from natives, and I hope the example may be followed by others in the future.

I guess this letter is already too long. , so I will not add any more gossip.

Yours very sincerely,

Henry H. Riggs.

Hartford, Dec. 8, 03

265

Rec'd FEB 19 1904

Ans'd FEB 26 1904

Euphrates College, Harpoot, Turkey, Jan. 9, 1904.

Rev. J. L. Barton, D.D.,
Congregational House,
Boston, Mass.

My dear Dr. Barton;-

In the rush of getting off the financial report of the College this week I failed to write a personal letter to you as I had intended, to accompany the report that I sent to you. I wanted to write to you especially in order to tell you myself, what I presume you have alread heard from others, that Harpoot Station, and especially and supremely one member of it, is rejoicing in the expected coming of the new Lady of the White House. Miss Annie C. Tracy, of Marsovan-Mt. Holyoke-Auburndale, will join me, I hope, this summer.

I will not venture to make any comments on this, but will leave you to imagine if you can what I might say if I were to allow myself to describe the coloring of my skies of late. - - - - - Although Miss Tracy will not come out in the ordinary way under the Board, yet she will be a missionary, most certainly, and I hope she will receive appointment as such, and be recognized as a missionary of the Board just as I am.

I do not know whether there are any precedents to be followed in the matter of providing for outfit and travelling expenses, or whether the Board of Trustees will have to take action on the matter; but I presume some provision will be made, and I hope that in due time you will communicate with Miss Tracy directly, so that there need not be too much delay in getting things shipped in this direction.

With cordial regards and good wishes for the year that has just begun, I remain,

Yours very sincerely,

Henry H. Riggs.

Abandoning Farm.

1904.

266

Rec'd FEB 17 1904

Ans'd FEB 26 1904

Euphrates College, Harpoot, Turkey, Jan. 14, 1904.

Rev. J. L. Barton, D.D.,
Congregational House,
Boston Mass.

My dear Dr. Barton;-

Since my report was sent off last week the question, which I mentioned in the last part, of an audience hall for the college, has again been brought up in connection with the Seminary plans. Perhaps Mr. Carey has written to you of the proposition that he has made in regard to it;- that a building be erected for the purposes of Audience hall and rooms for the Seminary, without waiting further for the action of the local church. The building could be put up on the roof of the stable, as originally planned, and consist of a large hall subdivided with movable partitions for the use of the Seminary or other purposes. The result of such a step would be, I feel sure, to put an end for the present at least, to the move on the part of the church to provide a building of their own. And they would be ready to continue indefinitely the present arrangement of worshipping in our buildings, if the building was large enough for comfort. They would even be glad to make some contributions toward putting it up, only that they would wish it understood that anything that they put into it now would be returned to them in case they should decide later to build for themselves. Nothing has been decided in regard to this, but the question is up, and some of us are inclined to tire of waiting in the hope that the people will move in the matter.

One matter I have neglected to mention in reply to your questions is the question of whether industrial work cannot be merged with that of the Orphanages. Mr. Knapp and I have had that plan in mind for some time, and we have talked it over again since you wrote. There might be room enough in the new building that has been put up for the orphans, put it would not be so convenient as a new shop would be, and I think the space could be otherwise used to good advantage. If we can get the money for a shop, that is the best arrangement, and the orphans could make use of it as well as the students. If not, for the present we could start in the present building, and if it seems best, make that into a permanent shop.

Yours very sincerely,

Henry H. Riggs.

Northfield, Mass.
Jan. 14, 1904

267
Rec'd MAR 4 1904
Ans'd MAR 1 1904

Euphrates College, Harpoot, Turkey, Feb. 4, 1904.

My dear Dr. Barton;-

In your letter of Dec. 22 you speak of the matter of photographs to be put in your booklet on educational work. I had supposed that you had photographs of the buildings as they now are, and as I did not find time to prepare any new ones, I sent none. From your letter, however, I gather that you have none taken since the ~~xxxxxxx~~ buildings were completed, so I will send you something as soon as I can get hold of it. It may not get into this mail, if not it will go by the next. I hope it may not be too late for use.

The prospects of my brother's coming seem to be rather less bright than at first, though I have no answer of a final nature yet. I presume you will know before long. If he cannot come I hope he will be able to help to find another man, for it is essential that someone come, if the Seminary is to be opened in our present short-handed state.

At a meeting of the Station a few days ago it was decided that it was best to go ahead with the erection of the audience hall, without waiting further for the action of the local church. I presume others may have written of the action. I

Wish to ask what formal action is necessary to approve the spending of the money which should go into it from College funds. Should the Trustees formally authorize it, or is it enough for the Managers to vote the expenditures here? It is a step which has long been looked upon as necessary, and I suppose that the necessary funds would naturally be drawn from the Contingent fund which Mr. Davis has written of. Estimates for the cost vary from three to six hundred liras. We have not as yet drawn up detailed plans, and even when they are drawn up, I do not fully trust the estimates of our workmen. The seminary would bear a part of the cost, according to our present plans the Seminary quarters would occupy about one third of the area, though not that proportion of the space. I have not time to write separately to Mr. Davis in regard to the matter. Will you please inform me if we are authorized to go ahead with such an expenditure here, and if necessary have the Trustees take action on the matter.

In haste, Yours very sincerely,

Henry H. Riggs

To

Rev. James L. Barton, D. D.

Congregational House, Boston, Mass.

Hartford, Feb. 4, 1904.

Rec'd MAR 14 1904

Ans'd MAR 24 1904

Euphrates College, Harpoot, Turkey, Feb. 17, 1904.

Rev. J. L. Barton, D. D.,
Congragational House, Boston, Mass;-

My dear Dr. Barton;-

Your last letter was written early in January, and brought your congratulations on my engagement. Thank you very much for your very kind and cordial words. It is of course no surprise to me that my friends are delighted with the announcement, and that those who have had the good fortune to meet Miss Tracy are so enthusiastic; but it was pleasant to have so many warm words said about it. I feel like thanking you and Mrs. Barton especially for the way in which you made it possible for so many of the Harpoot circle to meet Miss Tracy together. She very greatly enjoyed it, and I have very much enjoyed hearing about it.

You speak of the Parable of the Talents in this connection. It is appropriate I am sure, but I think the Parable of the Pounds fits better! I am glad that the matter of Miss Tracy's appointment as a missionary is being taken up so promptly. When I wrote about the matter some time ago, I did not know that it was taken for granted that she would be so appointed, but hoped that she would be. I want to thank you for your personal interest and help that you have been giving to her, and will yet give her, in her preparations for coming out. It seems a little hard lines that I cannot be there to have a hand in the preparation of the outfit, etc., but I have too much to be grateful for to do a great deal of complaining. I shall plan to go at least as far as Constantinople, and perhaps farther, to meet Miss Tracy. I need not remark that I should go a good deal farther if I were not a "poor missionary".

The great event of the past week has of course been the release of Prof. Tenekejian, with twenty seven of his fellow sufferers. It is certainly reason for great rejoicing that so many are restored to their friends, especially as they are, all but two, cleared of all the accusations brought against them. We had an informal sort of a welcoming reception at the college Monday, both in the Male and the Female Departments. Prof. T. spoke a few words in both places, and what he said was very appropriate and very touching. He spoke of the time he had spent in thought, of how he realized as never before what the College had been to him. He said, "This College has made me what I am; it has given me whatever there is in me of good; during my imprisonment the teachers, students and missionaries have shown me their deepest love and sympathy. I owe every thing to this institution; so here is my life from now on, a gift to the College."

Yesterday there was a temporary flurry of panic, as three houses, two in Huseynik and one here in the city, were searched by the police. Naturally people

also one in Inegerek

remembered the exactly similar events with which our troubles began last summer, and they cannot be blamed for getting a little hysterical. However, great confidence is felt in our Vali, and as the persons whose houses were searched were treated with great courtesy and kindness, and no one, so far as I know, was detained long by the police, there seems every reason to think that the incident is closed. Dr.Barnum went to see the Vali today, and the latter explained the affair in such a way as to assure us that there is no malice in it here, the accusations having come from America, and the order to search coming from Constantinople was technically obeyed, but in the way that would lead to the least possible disturbance. Really the political atmosphere is very different indeed from what it was a few months ago, and our skies seem to be quite bright once more. This is largely due to the personal character of our Vali.

I inclose a rough pencil sketch of the plans that we have drawn up for the new building on the top of the present stable. The plans may be changed materially, as we are still at work on them, but I send this to show how our ideas are turning thus far. Hayajan, our head workman, has made an estimate on the basis of this plan, and puts the total cost at 57,000 pias (silver),-roughly ~~$1200~~ (2300)+. His estimates are generally too low, but I do not know how this will turn out.

Our enthusiasm and confidence in regard to coöperation with the pastors received a rather severe shock a few weeks ago; has anyone written of the matter? Someone,-Ifear it was one of our teachers, wrote a very improper letter to the Puragn, criticising the management of the Orphanages at Harpoot, and the Puragn had the bad taste to publish it. Whereupon the Executive Committee of the Union sent to the"Badveli Missionark " one of their old fashioned letters of inquiry, with questions numbered one two and three, in which they proceeded to dig off the scabs of some of the sores that we had thought were healing nicely. The points brought up were the management of the Orphanages, in which they felt the ~~xxxxx~~ union ought to have a finger, and they proposed the appointment of a commission to investigate the Puragn's charges. Likewise the election of the native members on the Board of Managers of the College, in which they wished to have at least the privilege of giving their advice. And the presence of Mr. Ehman, who has made himself very unpopular of late, at the meetings of the Coöperation Committee. Some of the members of the Station who have great wisdom as well as consecration framed in reply a soft answer which at the same time stated our position, and we have heard no more from the Union on that subject. I hope the incident is closed, so far as they are concerned. But the day after the answer was sent there was to have been a conference with the pastors on the subject of the Theological Seminary, and of all the pastors in this region, all of whom were personally invited,

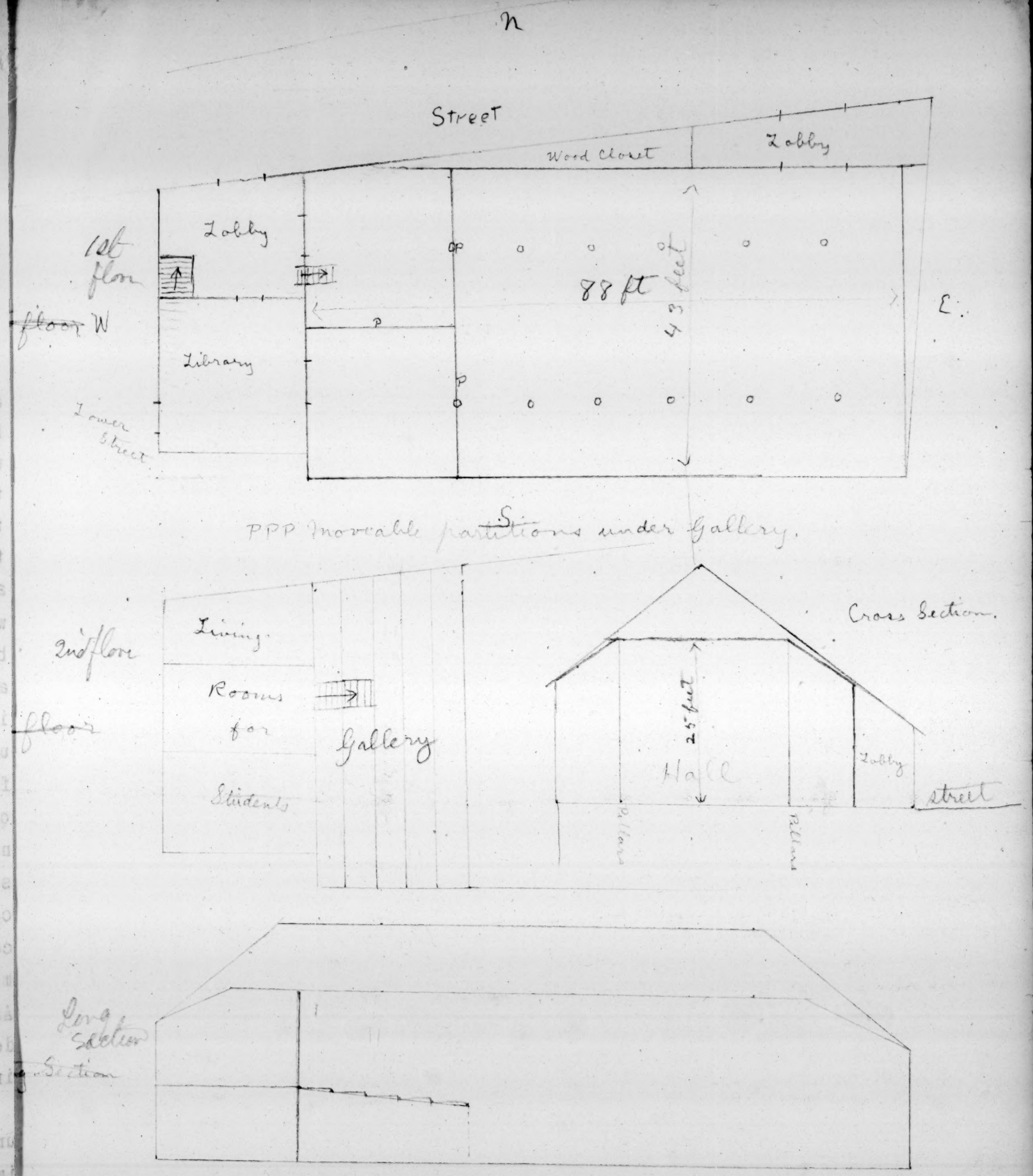
only two turned up at the appointed time. Whether this had anything to do with the other incident or not I am not altogether sure, but I am inclined to think not, and that the main reason for their non-appearance was that they do not feel as much interest in an informal and unofficial conference as they do in an official gathering where expenditures are voted. I have faith to believe that on the present basis we shall continue to work together with our native brethren with advantage to both parties, though I have no doubt that we shall all learn some lessons in humility and patience.

Speaking of the Coöperation scheme reminds me of a remark that you made about it in a recent letter to Dr. Barnum. I presume that he has answered it, but as I had a good deal to do with drawing up and negotiating the treaty I would like to add a remark. The words to which you refer, "fix the amount of aid to be given from the funds of the Board to needy communities", were the crux of the whole matter with the native brethren. With that understanding they are willing to join with us, but they very emphatically elevate their noses at any merely advisory functions. I think I can say positively that any change of that sort would instantly put an end to the Cooperation Committee and its work, for I have been over the ground with them too often and too earnestly to have any doubt left as to the position held by the leaders of the Union. In framing the plan we put in the proviso that the missionaries could veto any expenditure that they deemed unwise, and refer the subject to the Prudential Committee. We felt that this sufficiently safeguarded our final control of the funds, and the idea of referring questions to the Prudential Committee is a wonderful salve to the feelings of the native members. Thus far in our work there has been no suggestion of the need for such a reservation, and unless we get on the committee some very unusually strong combination of very strong men who are opposed to our policy, I feel perfectly confident the need will ever arise. There will be a strong effort at the next meeting of the Union to increase the number of native members or decrease the Americans on the Committee, and I shall not be surprised if there should be a good deal of criticism on the part of a few menagainst the idea of the missionaries holding the veto power, as a matter of principal.

This is a far longer letter than I started out to write, and I fear it is unnecessarily so. I find it hard to get at things outside the routine and the imperative duties here, but I shall hope to have the copy for the Catalog ready before very long. With sincere regards,

Yours very truly,

Henry H. Riggs.



Outline sketch of plans of proposed Audience Hall and Seminary Building, Harpoot,
Estimated cost 57000 pias. silver.

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Apr
RECEIVED APR 26 1904

Euphrates College, Harpoot, Turkey, March 30, 1904.

Rev. J. L. Barton, D. D.,
Congregational House,
Boston, Mass.

My dear Dr. Barton;-

Your letters of Feb. 19th and 26th are received, and as I am just preparing to start off on a trip to Diarbekir, Mardin and Kurdistan, I can only acknowledge them most hastily. You had just heard of the release of Prof. Tenekejian, and had not as yet had any details. You will have heard ere this all about it, and will know that he was not only completely vindicated, but has come out of the affair with a certain degree of additional prestige, even among his enemies. He is hard at work, and seems very earnest and happy in it.

I was in Hocilou the day after your former letter came, and mentioned what you said about their school. They have none now, and I hope the young men in America will get their plan on foot soon. I will be glad to help in any way that I may.

You wrote of the opinion expressed by the Trustees that we should be slow in putting up buildings here at this time of uncertainty. The force of the argument is felt here, and in regard to building for the Boys Primary and Grammar School, we have felt that it would not be well to take immediate steps. But the Hall is a thing so immediately needed that the Board of Managers have voted to proceed at once, and I do not think that the new element introduced by this action of the Trustees will make it seem best to retract. Of course it is a matter about which the wisest opinion may turn out wrong, and we have to go by faith a great deal. But it seems to me and to others here that the harm done by not building at this time and underthese circumstances might be considerable. That is to say, the moral effect of giving up the plan on account of supposed dangers would be bad. So, as the Trustees leave the matter to our judgement, I think we will go ahead. I will however, bring the matter up again for reconsideration if there is any inclination to do so on the part of others.

I shall try to write more later in regard to other matters connected with the Meeting of the Trustees, after returning from our trip. Mr. Carey and I start in the morning for a trip of three weeks or so.

Yours very sincerely,

Henry H. Riggs.

1107

Mardin, April 11, 1904.

Rec'd MAY 16 1904

Dear folks at Harpoot:

I presume Mr. Carey writes extensively of our affairs, but I will write a little too, as his letters may not be for the general public. We arrived here on Thursday last, after a rather short and (to me) unsatisfactory visit in Diarbekir. Missionaries are at a discount there, and I wish we could stay till they got over their reserve toward us. I don't know that any good was accomplished by our visit except the wisdom we gained ourselves.

Here the Friends have entertained us right royally, and shown us all the lions, except the castle, which we hope to see this afternoon, if all goes well. We have called on some of the bishops, etc. seen the market, churches, monastery and schools, and had a good visit with the American circle here. We have also had time to make two or three flops in our plans. The first was to take an extra week to our Kurdistan trip, as we could not make it in schedule time. That did not seem to lie quiet in our khelk, so we decided to leave out Redwan, going tomorrow direct to Harkin. Then, in view of the fact that in the present disturbed state of that region the people may be afraid of us, we are contemplating the possibility of spending only parts of two days in Harkin, and pushing on to Heini for Sunday. In case we should decide to do that we may get home before Saturday, but don't expect

us till we come.

It is possible that the mail from the north may arrive before we leave, and we may have some word from Harpoot. I hope Mr. Carey gets a letter, for he needs it. I don't expect any, so am more calm.

With warm regards all around,

Very sincerely,

Henry H. Riggs.

Rev. Henry H. Riggs
Varnichum, Apr. 11, 08

Rec'd MAY 21 1904

Euphrates College, Harpoot, Turkey, April 27, 1904.

Rev. J. L. Barton,
Congregational House,
Boston, Mass.

My dear Dr. Barton;-

Three letters from you and as many from Mr. Davis, were among the many tha that were awaiting me on my return from Kurdistan last week; and in the rush of accumulated work I cannot answer them as fully as I wish to.

But first let me say of the tour that is just completed, that I feel that it was eminently worth while in the view it gave to me of that part of the field, not t to mention the missionary work that we were able to do. I have now seen all of our field except Palou and the district near it, which I hope I may include some time, so as to be the better able to serve those places in my work here at the center.

I trust that Mr. Carey will find time to report the trip fully. Our visit in Mardin was most delightful, and gave us a glimpse of the work and methods and problems of that station. Our journey through Kurdistan was all too short, and conditions were decidedly unfavorable for seeing the people. Such fear and unrest I think I have never seen since the massacres, unless it was here last summer. We were warned by the Kaimakam at Farkin that though he would furnish us with Zabtiehs we should understand that we were in danger, and travel at our own risk. The cause of the special excitement was that there had been fighting between the Kurdish tribes and the Armenian revolutionists in the region of Talori, up in the mountain, and the Kurds were in a great fury at their own losses. Everywhere we were taken for Russians, and suspected by the common Kurds of being connected with the rebels. This made people afraid to have anything to do with us, but it was not, after all, as much of a handicap as at first we feared.

I need not say that I was immensely pleased to hear on my arrival the news that my brother Ernest is after all to join us this summer. Personally, I feel as if I had pretty full reasons to feel happy at the prospect for next year, and I feel glad to know that it is not a purely selfish satisfaction, either.

Thank you for your action in the matter of the Audience Hall and Seminary building. I thing I wrote you that Haiajan's estimate for the cost of the building was about £t530. Those who have had experience with him are inclined to fear that the cost is likely to overrun the estimate, but we shall do the best we can to bring it within the limit, and shall certainly not overrun the limit of $2000 for the College share. Of the share of the Seminary, Mr. Carey will doubtless write to you. We had planned for one room to serve as library and recitation room as long as the class is small, and only one. But the two large rooms under the gallery belong to

the Seminary, and are available as class rooms when needed. We have not made any provision for men with their families to live in the Seminary building, but very possibly if it seems best to do so, the rooms below, now used by the hostler an and for the College washing, could be used for that purpose.

From your letter of March 24, I understand that you are going to publish a pamphlet for the college of a more general nature than a common catalogue, and if that is published I suppose you will not care to publish in English the catalogue copy for which I had been preparing. What would you think of publishing such a regular catalogue for use in this country in Armenian? I had intended to send you the materials for the catalogue some time ago, but my tour interrupted. Now I gather that it will not be necessary.

You query about the validity of our permit to build. The question had to be put to the test, as there was an error in the specifications for the building, which we are trying to have formally corrected. In starting to correct the figures of the permit there has not arisen any doubt of its validity, so that we shall have no difficulty on that score, but as yet the correction of the figures has not been compassed, though there seems to be no reason to doubt that it will be put in order, as the original orders from Constantinople covered the whole building. The Vali has taken the matter upin a very fair and sensible way.

This week is too full to allow of full answers to the many letters that I have before me, so I will have to omit all reference to the meeting of the Trustees; reported in these letters.

Yours very sincerely,

Henry H. Riggs

P.S. I notice in your letter regarding indemnity money for the Seminary library an item which includes the telescope, which I am told belonged to the college. If that indemnity was paid for the telescope, we are all agreed here that a telescope should be bought to replace the one burned. The old one was a four inch telescope but I know nothing of it beyond that. If the money is available, I should be very glad if you and Mr. Davis would secure a good telescope for us, of as high a grade and power as the fund will allow. A portable equatorially mounted astronomical telescope with a terrestrial attachment would be what we want. If the indemnity was not paid in full, a three inch glass would answer all our purposes, I presume, though the higher the better. It occurs to me that perhaps we could get a better glass if we got it without the mounting and stand. That is, only the lenses and tube, with moveable axis. We could fix up a tripod and equatorial axis here. If it will materially reduce the cost, I think it will be well to do it.

Youss very truly.

Henry H. Riggs.

272

Rec'd JUN 20 1904

Euphrates College.

Ans'd JUN 21 1904

HARPOOT, TURKEY, May 25, 1904.

Rev. J. L. Barton, D.D.,
Congregational House, Boston.

My dear Dr. Barton;-

Hurried preparations for departure do not leave very ample time for letters this week, but I wish to write to you just a word about my taking this furlough. The cable message that came last Friday bore no signature, but its meaning was unmistakable, and I have gone on the assumption that whoever sent it did so with due authority. Of course I am very thankful indeed that it is possible for me to go, for I have long felt very anxious to do so, for personal reasons. It was a good deal to ask of Miss Tracy, under the peculiar circumstances, to leave her parents and come clear to Turkey to meet me. But now that I am going I feel that it is a providential arrangement for other than personal reasons. The circumstances of my coming here at first were such that I came without any preparation for the special work to which I came, and it was a rather overwhelming beginning for my life work. I found some things here that, had I known them in advance, would probably have deterred me from coming. As I did not know them I think it was because the Lord wanted me to come, and I have put my hand to the plow. But I feel that it will add greatly to my fitness for the work if I can get off for once and see things in better perspective than I can here, and espicially to talk over matters with you and others who are interested in the College, and get a little broader view of things. Then there are some things in the situation in general here that I want to talk over with you and Mr. Browne, so as to clarify my own ideas without the pressure of the immediate presence of the problems. I refer especially to the relation of our work to that of the Germans and of the native friends. There is just now a raging tempest in our teapot over the alledged heresy of Mr. Carey. The fact seems to be that from their point of view he is a heretic, and so are most of the rest of us. I have wasted a couple of hours of valuable time this morning going down and talking with Mr. Ehman and Pastor Lohman about matters, and the upshot of the conference in my mind was that it will be pretty hard to get any nearer to the German friends on any ground than we are now, and they are right in declining to enter into co-operation with us. There seems to be a smack of the spirit of the good old days when a heretic was burned at the stake, and anyone of who does not believe in the literal and verbal inspiration of the Bible is a heretic.

There are other matters that I want to talk over in connection with our work, and I hope to have clearer ideas of what I am going to do when I return.

Yours very sincerely
Henry H. Riggs.

Hartford, May 25, 1904

Rec'd JUL 7 1904 273

Waverly, Ky. July 8, 1904.

Rev. James L. Barton, D.D.
Congregational House,
Boston, Mass.

Ans'd JUL 13 1904

My dear Dr. Barton:

I can at last write definitely about plans, for which I have delayed longer than I had expected, as we have been unable to get the data earlier. We have decided to sail on the "St. Louis," of the American Line, from New York on Saturday, July 23. This will necessitate our leaving Boston some time Friday, and I think we will not count on that day in the city, as there are friends to be visited on the way. We plan to reach Boston on Wednesday morning the 20th, and that day and the next we shall keep free to use as may seem best. I will be very glad indeed of the chance to meet the Trustees

and as many other friends as may be possible. I certainly hope it may be possible to have some conference with ~~the~~ Mr. Browne about work in Harpoot.

I would suggest that if it makes no material difference to others, the conference with the Trustees should be on Wednesday, as it is possible that there may be things to be attended to after that meeting. I believe the meeting of the Prudential committee comes on Tuesday, but it would be quite out of the question for us to reach there for that. I hope I may meet some of the members later, however.

Thank you for giving me the information about the "Saxonia". We have decided on the "St. Louis", as it gives us more time, and the rates are slightly lower.

With cordial regards, in which Miss Tracy joins, I remain, Yours sincerely, Henry H. Riggs.

Wednesday
Aug. 8, 1904

Rev. Henry H. Rugg 1904 274

Smithfield, Pa,
July 16, 1904.

My dear Dr. Barton:

I wrote yesterday to Mr. Davis, and intended to write you at the same time to tell you of our exact plans. May I ask you to tell Mr. Browne and Miss Daniels, and any others who ought to know. I cannot write to all of them.

We plan to reach Boston at 7 oclock Wednesday morning and will go to the Rooms as soon

as we have had time for breakfast, etc. Thursday afternoon we plan to go to Hymnies for the night. And Friday afternoon we go on to New York. Further details will have to be filled in later, and we will be willing to accept such arrangements as you and Mr. Davis see best to make. I will be very glad if you will lay some plans for meeting those whom we ought to meet. We shall wish to go out to call at Auburndale and Cambridge, and possibly some other places. I am looking forward with great interest, to

meeting with so many friends of the College, and trust it will be a useful occasion for our work.

With cordial regards from Mrs. Riggs and myself,

Yours very sincerely

Henry H. Riggs.

Nov 8,

275

Rec'd NOV 21 1904

Euphrates College.

Ans'd NOV 25 1904

HARPOOT, TURKEY, Oct. 27, 1904.

Rev. James L. Barton, D.D.,
Congregational House,
Boston, Mass.

My dear Dr. Barton;-

My brother has written to you about the matter of his appointment as ViceConsul here, and I need only add that Dr. Norton consulted with Dr. Barnum and myself before suggesting the matter to my brother, and we both felt that the objections that were held against Dr. Atkinson's accepting the post did not hold in this case, technically, at least, and the need of having a viceconsul here was so great as to make it desireable that my brother should be appointed. I wish also to say to you confidentially that Dr. Norton will in all probability leave here before long, and I feel that it will be very unfortunate, in the present state of political affairs hereto have no one with consular prerogatives on the ground during the necessary interregnum.

Dr. Norton told me of the probable change in confidence, and asked me not to mention it to any one, except in confidence to you. It is quite possible, he says, that he may be removed to another post en December, and the reason of his speaking of the fact to me is that we may take what steps we may see fit to have the place filled by a man in sympathy with our work. Dr. Norton thought that if there were a vice consul here, it might make it possible to have the new appointment made with some deliberation, and give opportunity to bring influence to bear in favor of some man who would meet our standards of representative American character. He also suggested that I should write to you about possible candidates for the place, so that we may be ready when the time comes. He said that if the name of a suitable candidate could be presented to Senator Foraker by some of the friends of the Board who are in touch with him, that would be the best way to accomplish our purpose, as the appointment of Dr. Norton was secured through him. In that case the candidate would have to be an Ohio man. Do you know of any suitable man to nominate? The only one I have thought of from Ohio is Mr. H. Chester Tracy, and I very much doubt wheter he would consider the proposition, or whether his experience in Turkey would be considered sufficient to offset his lack of experience in consular service. I have thought of two others, who thought not from Ohio, might, I suppose be nominatad by their Senators, especially if the support of Senator Foraker were secured for them. Mr. Ellsworth Huntington, and Mr. Harry G. Dwight. The former has had such wide experience and has such fine equipment for

the service that a very strong case could be made for him, if he would consider it. The latter has had, in addition to residence in Turkey, several years in the consulate in Venice, which might make it easier to secure his appointment. I do not know whether either of these gentlemen would feel drawn to such a position. I am pretty sure that neither wouldlook upon it as a permanent work. Mr. Huntington is, I believe, engaged for the next year or so, and I do not know how that would affect his future plans;- but you can easily see him and find out from himself. Of Mr. Dwight I know still less, but if you wish to get into communication with him I presume you can do so through his father, Dr. Dwight, in New York.

I write to you of this matter at Dr. Norton's suggestion, but I feel myself very strongly the desireability of making every possible effort to have a good man appointed here., in case Dr. N. is removed. If, as is probable, he is removed to a higher post, his influence would of course have weight, and he would do all he could if there was a good candidate in sight. We do not want to have a ward politician sent out here, as has been done in some other places. I suppose that nothing official can be done until Dr. Norton's removal is announced, -if it takes place;- he does not even wish the probability of it spoken of for the present, any more definitely than it has been recently. But if you can canvas the possibilities, and have the matter in mind, so that when the time comes there may be an acceptable candidate well backed, we may hope that it man be possible to get him here. I do not know much about political wirepulling in such matters, but from what I have heard, I guess there has to be a good deal of it.

I think that I have not reported to you the opening of the new year in College. The fact is that I have not written much to anyone since coming here. You can perhaps imagine the crush of workthat has kept me going, wi th all the events of these first weeks, in addition to the new work in the Seminary. Our numbers are about the same as last spring;- a little smaller on the whole. College and High school are larger than ever before, as also both boarding departments, I think. Local schools have drawn off a large number of boys from our Primary and Grammar grades. This is in itself a very good thing, provided the number of candidates for the higher schools does not diminish as a result. There is a feeling of confidence in our College, especially in view of the additions to our teaching force, and I think the prospects for the future are on the whole very good. The tone and spirit among teachers and students seems to be very good, this fall. Mr. Dingilian, our teacher from Marsovan, is recovering from an attack of Pneumoniay which followed close on his attack of fever, so that thus far he has not been able to do much teaching.

Mrs. Riggs joins me in cordial regards to Mrs. Barton and yourself.

Yours very sincerely,

Henry H. Riggs.

Rev. Henry S. Leigh

Harpoot, Turkey

Oct 27, 1904

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Rec'd JAN 30 1905

Ans'd FEB 10 1905

Euphrates College.

HARPOOT, TURKEY, Dec. 29, 1904.

Rev. James L. Barton, D.D.
Congregational House,
Boston, Mass.

My dear Dr. Barton;-

May I ask a little of your time for a personal favor? I wish to have a package which is coming from Waverly N. Y. get here as soon as may be, without waiting for the March shipment. I do not suppose that there is time for it to reach the January shipment. I believe that there are arrangements for small parcels to be sent by post to Constantinople, and I am pretty sure there are express Companies there, but I have not definite information. I also suppose that Miss Bush and perhaps Miss Daniels and a nurse will be coming out this coming spring. May I ask you to write to Mrs. A. O. Tracy, Waverly, Tioga Co., N.Y., telling her, first whether there is any chance of getting the package into the January shipment. Also how the arrangements for Parcels Post or Express to Constantinople are. and finally will you tell her what the probabilities are of travelers this way, either to Harpoot or to Constantinople, within the next two or three months.

I am sorry to add this to your many calls on your time, but as it is rather important to get the things here as early as practicable, and as you can give the information needed better than anyone else, I have ventured to do so. By the next post I shall send the annual report and accounts for the meeting of the Board of Trustees, and at that time I will speak of some other matters that call for attention. Thanking you in advance for the trouble, I remain.

Yours very sincerely,

Henry H. Riggs.

Rev. Henry H. Riggs

Harpoot Dec. 29. 1904

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Rec'd FEB 3 1905
Ans'd FEB 3 1905

Euphrates College.

HARPOOT, TURKEY, Jan. 6, 1905.

Rev. James L. Barton, D.D.
Congregationl House, Boston, Mass.

My dear Dr. Barton;-

I am sending under separate cover the annual report for the Board of Trustees. I have written with a good deal of thought as to the real condition of our work. I feel very deeply the failure in some lines of our educational machine. Of the boys in our senior class this year there are very few whom I should be willing to have compared with the graduates of Anatolia or Central Turkey College as I have seen them, either in scholarly attainment or in strength or depth of character. This difference was most especially impressed on me during my recent absence from Harpoot. Dr. Barnum does not think that there is such a marked difference, and I wish I could believe that in this case his judgement is, as usual, better than mine; but I cannot. It is a great burden on my mind that the boys here do not get the <u>education</u> that so many years of schooling ought to represent. I feel that it is all one matter, intellectual slovenliness, moral indefference and spiritual heedlesness and shallowness;- it seems to me that all these are one defect, and that what is needed is an awakening of the whole being, and that that awakening is not brought about by the routine that the boys go through here. We have prayed long and earnestly for a spiritual awakening, feeling that that would carry with it the whole need of our work. But I am convinced that means as well as prayer are needed, and the means proposed in my report are the more external means that it has seemed to me most be adopted. If I were convinced that all the lack is in the stock of Armenians left in this region I should resign at once. But I have a strong faith that if the right means can be used, with God's help the new life will come, and in that hope I am more than willing to spend my life here.

I have written thus personally to you, because I do not want to put in a general report my own doubts or my own purposes. I do not wish to give the impression of pessimism or discouragement, and perhaps many would not distinguish, as I trust you do, between pessimism and a clear view of defects and needs. I am anxious to receive suggestions, either from you, who know the conditions here, or from others who have met and overcome similar difficulties.

I have received your two letters enclosing checks for Minas Khachoyan, and am holding the checks for him as directed.

Rev. C. Burnham to Prof.

Thank you for the interest you are taking in the suggestions I made about the Consulate. I have a letter from my cousin Harry Dwight in which he speaks of a young man named Engle, of whom he has doubtless written you. Dwight does not consider to call, and from what he says of himself I judge he does well. Very likely you know more than we here do what is going on in the matter of the Consulate, at prerent We have not heard anything more recent than what I wrote you about a probable change. If there is a change, I hope the interregnum may not be too long, for it would put r rather more burden on my brother than he would wish, though he will do the work as long as it is necessary.

The correspondence and action with regard to Miss Daniels' return has been of deep interest, and not a little perplexity to us all. With the exception of Dr. Barnum, I think we all felt great doubt as to what ought to be done in view of Miss Daniels' reply. But I think the action taken will prove to have been the wisest, and practically all of the station are ready now to welcome her back in all cordiality and freedom, if she comes with a clear understanding of the changes that are required. For my part, I never had any difficulty at all with her, and she always gave me as president, all the recognition that I could ask. If, however, it seems best for me to have more still of authority and share in the management of the Girls' department, I am quite willing to do my part, and do not anticipate the slightest difficulty with Miss Daniels.

With best wishes for the new year so recently begun,

Yours very sincerely,

Henry H. Riggs.

Rev. Henry H. Riggs.

Harpoot. Jan. 6. 1905.

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Rec'd FEB 10 1905

Ans'd FEB 10 1905

Euphrates College.

HARPOOT, TURKEY, Jan. 13, 1905.

Rev. James L. Barton, D.D.
Congregational House,
Boston, Mass;-

My dear Dr. Barton;-

I inclose a list of addresses to which I would like to have some College literature sent. You suggested my sending such addresses for sending last year's report and historical sketch, and if that pamphlet is still available, I would like to have it sent to these addresses. I am very sorry that the matter has been crowded out for so long, the pamphlet is rather old now, but still I think it will be worth while to send it. I have put crosses opposite some names, indicating that I think (Or those who furnished the address in some cases, think) that there would be no harm in sending with the pamphlet a request for contributions for the Industrial work, such as was sent to some in July. I have not heard what success that effort met. I still hope, among personal friends, to get something toward the shop, but the need will grow as fast as the supply does, in this work, so I hope that more than the amou amount at first asked for will come in in the end.

We are closing schools today for the holidays. With best regards,

Yours very sincerely,

Henry H. Riggs.

Rev. Henry H. Riggs.

Harpoot, Turkey. Jan. 13. 1905.

Rec'd APR 22 1905

Euphrates College.

Ans'd APR 27 1905

HARPOOT, TURKEY, March 24, 1905.

Rev. James L. Barton, D. D.
Congregational House, Boston, Mass.

My dear Dr. Barton;-

I have letters from you to acknowledge, of Feb. 4th, 11th, t and 18th. You mention your frequent letters to me in the last one, and it reminds me that I have not expressed as I ought to have how I appreciate your letters. They are often a great encouragement and help, and I always look for them with the greatest pleasure. I feel especially grateful when I think of the many other interests that must crowd upon you. It means much, I know, that you can give so much thought and time to the College and to Harpoot Station. Thank you especially for your words about our work here, in answer to my somewhat pessimistic-sounding letter accompanying the annual report.

Your last letter brought very welcome news indeed,-of the $100,000 gift to educational work, of which we get $7000 for our industrial plant. I want to thank you first for your efforts in securing it for us. It makes me feel as if we could go ahead now and develop our industrial work to a reasonable extent without being limited by questions of funds at present. I want also to thank the donor, whom you did not name. I will inclose the letter, and if you see fit, you might insert the name, or send it to him as it is.

As to the use of the money, the problem of how to use it does not at all appall me, but as you suggest, we shall be slow to put it to use, developing the plant only as the way seems perfectly clear. The expenditures for the cabinet shop, including building, machines, lumber and running expenses up to the end of the present year, will still be , I hope, well within the limit of $2000 which I originally named. This will probably include something of a blacksmith shop, which is constant-l ly needed in connection with the cabinet shop. We may also decide to get some of the boys to work learning the tinner's trade, which will, however, not involve very much outlay.

I had the good fortune the other day to stumble upon a rather rich find. In the basement of Badveli Toros's house There were two lathes, , one of them a good iron lathe, almost exactly the form and size that I had determined to order from America by this mail. In addition there were a number of other machines, for iron and tin work, and a quantity of small tools and plenty of junk. It seems that the owner of the outfit sent it ahead of him from America, and afterwards failed to come, on account of the massacres; so the outfit has been lying there, small bits of it

having been sold from time to time, till I accidentally discovered it in the search for a gear wheel. The Badveli offered to sell out the whole pile, and was glad to take fifteen liras for it all. As the list price of all the machines and tools when new must have been between two and three hundred dollars, it is well worth the price paid, though some things are in rather bad shape.

I am just putting up a tower clock on the Varzharan. It is one of my own contrivance, made here, but I hope it will give as good service as one that costs fifty times as much I have to day. I received from Samsoun a package of brass type for book-binding work. I ha no hint of the source of this package, and am at a loss to know who sent it or whence. It has been held in Samsoun for some months, while the government officials here came and made sure that the type were not to be used in our press. They sealed up the press, and now have released the type.

Time is up, as the mail is suddenly called for,

With cordial regards, in which Mrs. Riggs joins,

Yours very sincerely,

Henry H. Riggs.

Enclosure delayed till next week.

Henry H. Riggs.

Harpoot. Turkey. Mar. 24. 1905.

Rec'd AUG 8 1905
Ans'd SEP 6 1905

Euphrates College.

HARPOOT, TURKEY, July 12, 1905.

Rev. James L. Barton, D. D.
Congregational House,
Boston, Mass.,

My dear Dr. Barton;-

I sent off a cable message to you last Friday morning, saying "Certainly send Hanson." I put in the word certainly in order to make it perfectly clear to you that we were in no doubt about our need for such a man, and that we were anxious to have him come. There was no doubt at all in our minds then, and I for one feel more and more the importance of this step, if it can be taken.

I do not know that there is much need of writing, for the matter will in all probability have to be settled before this reaches you; but I may as well tell you how the thing looks to me. In the first place, I think we are all united in believing fully and intelligently in the industrial side of our work here. I even incline to think that it is more important for our future work than a great deal of the old line work that is still being held on to in this field. Perhaps that is heresy, but we are all united in believing that industries must be pushed, for some time to come, at least; and to send out a man for that special purpose would be a very wise expenditure of force. Then there is all the work that Mr. Knapp and I could do if we were relieved of the business side of our work. He is much needed in touring, and there is a vast amount of the college work that has had the go by recently, as I am not big enough to do it all. Right here there comes in the only pang in all this plan. I must confess that it was with something of a twinge that I at first contemplated turning over the Industrial Department to anyone else. It is the sort of work that I enjoy, and have some natural fitness for, which is more than can be said of most of my other duties. So it is rather hard to think of turning over my pet to another. But on the other hand I feel that it will make a great difference in my other work if I can have more of my time to devote to the direct administration of the College, and personal touch with teachers and pupils. As I Have during the past few weeks seen more of the lack of this, and been considerably discouraged thereby, am enthusiastically in favor of getting Mr. Hanson here if it is in any way possible. It seems to me that such an arrangement will do a very great deal to strengthen our work, - so though I have mentioned a single personal item, I want you to be sure that with all my heart I hope the plan will succeed.

In connection with this, I have meant for some time to report to you the plans

accepted by the Board of Managers for our Industrial work. We had a special meeting last month, devoted entirely to that subject, and decided as follows.

The Cabinet shop is to be pushed forward to the highest efficiency possible. To that end it is to have a little more space, some more tools and materials, and a rolling capital of about 125 liras to be kept employed in the form of lumber supply and readymade furniture for sale.

As soon as we can find the proper workmen, we will have also an iron working plant, and a tin-smith's establishment, for which we alseady have some of the outfit. I hope to have these two at work before September and will report more in detail then as to just what is to be done. In connection with the tin shop, we plan to go into the canning business, at first on a very limited scale, but perhaps it will develop conriderably in the future. I have also a gradually forming plan in my mind for systematic manual training for all our students, instead of only for the poor, as this is. The Board has also voted to get, from the Industrial fund, a cutting machine for the Bindery, and a Cook ing range for the Cooking school in the female department.

I would like also to tell you of the plan that I have been revolving in my mind for some time, though it is not at all fully matured yet, and I have not conferred with my associates about it. It is to introduce a little of the elective system here so as to offer more than one regular course in our College, as all colleges in America do. I have thought that we might have one course adapted spe; cially to those who intend to be teachers,- a sort of a normal course, of perhaps two years after leaving the High School. This need not include many studies not in the regular College course, but by selection and emphasis might be made a far better preparation for a teacher than the first two years of the regular college course. Then another course, perhaps of the same length, might be specially adapted to those preparing for a merchantile life. This, too, need not call for more than a very few new lessons to be taught, but would be a more symmetrical preparation for business than two or three years of the ordinary course would be. I have also thought of an agricultural course, to follow after perhaps the first year or two of the High Sch. and to cover at least three years, to give a special training to farmers. This would call for several lessons not now in our curriculum, and together with the other two courses, it would require at least two additional teachers, at a cost of something like three hundred dollars a year. I think that after the first year or so the tuition in these additional courses would to a large extent cover the added expense.

Of course the natural objection to this plan is that it seems like a lowering of the standards, to offer something less than the college course. I presume that as a matter of fact there would result <u>something</u> of a falling off in the number of academic students in our college course. But it is my opinion that this would

be more than compensated by the additional number who would enter these shorter courses. As you probably know, of those who enter the High School here, only about forty or fifty percent enter college, and only about half of those graduate. Of those other three quatters a very large percentage will be either teachers or merchants, and a goodly proportion are drawn from the farmers' families, and do not go back to the farm simply because they do not feel that there is any proper opportunity for an educated man in farming. If we had such courses here, as I have suggested, I am convinced that there would be many young men brought and kept under the influence of our schools who are not now within our reach. I have spoken above only of the boys in our own schools. I think that such courses would draw also a good many who have had their elementary training elsewhere, and so widen the influence of the College. But aside from the number of students reached, I think the advantages to those who do come would be great. It is hard to get teachers who will devote themselves to the primary work of our village schools. Those who have completed the College course are inclined to look higher than common school teaching, and those who have not are not properly equipped to do the best work. A normal training school would more exactly fit the needs of a majority of our village schools than the full college course. In the case of business training the case is stronger yet. Commonly boys who are going into business drop out after the High School course, and that is defended on the very real ground that college graduates know more about history and philosophy than they do about Arithmetic, book-keeping and letter-writing. A special course for them would attract many, and would raise the standard of education among our business men a good deal more than the college course at present does.

The agricultural course would have a virgin field, but one that is quite ready for cultivation. Several people have spoken to me of opening an agricultural college, and any move in that direction would be met with enthusiasm, though I think it would have to start on a very limited scale. At present farmers are not educated, and educated men do not become farmers. As you know, farming needs educating, and if something can be done in that line, there is plenty of room for improvement, for this is an agricultural region.

I had not intended to write so fully about this when I set out, but have simply been thinking on paper. I would like to know how the idea appeals to you, and to other members of the Board of Trustees, if you have opportunity to speak with them of it. If it seems to you a line along which the College can afford to move, even in some measure, I will be glad to hear from you. I shall elaborate the plan more fully in my own mind, but it will be best not to say anything about it here until I know how far it will be approved by those in authority.

My father and mother arrived here Tuesday, to spend a few weeks with us. Dr. Norton left yesterday.

Yours very sincerely
Henry H. Riggs.

Henry H. Riggs

Harpoot-Turkey July 12-1905.

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Rec'd AUG 8 1905

Ans'd SEP 6 1905

J. N. Davis

Euphrates College.

HARPOOT, TURKEY, July 13, 1905.

My dear Dr. Barton;-

I failed in my letter of yesterday to write of the action of the Board of Managers in regard to the sums guaranteed by members of the Board of Trustees for Industrial work, and released by the Rockefeller gift.

The $100 which you gave, is to be used, as you requested, for the Theological Seminary, Mr. Fairbank's $50 is to be used in the Girls' Department in care of Miss Barnum, and she has planned to use it for purchasing school supplies for girls who are sent out to teach in village schools. This plan was approved.

For the rest of the money Mr. Davis asked that the Board make suggestions. The suggestions made were that it should also go to the Seminary, or to the general missionary work in this field. But the suggestion that met with the mostapproval, and which I would strongly recommend myself is that it should be spent in furnishing our male Department dormitories with iron bedsteads. It has been urged upon us several times of late that we get bedsteads, as there is a growing demand for them, and some of the boys supply them themselves. If it meets the approval of the donors, I would be glad if you will have som e bedsteads sent to us, as soon as convenient. We would need about seventyfive bedsteads. They should be strong, above all, and I suppose, the plainer the better. Steel strip slats, and no springs, single width beds. We should supply them here with straw mattresses, and the boys would furnish the bedding, of course.

My parents have just arrived for a little visit with us this summer. Mrs. Riggs joins in regards to yourself and your family,

Yours very sincerely,

Henry H. Riggs.

Henry H. Riggs

Henry H. Riggs

Harpoot - Turkey. July 13 - 1905.

Euphrates College, Harput, Turkey. Sept. 27, 1906

Dear Friends,—

I cannot begin to answer individually all the flood of letters that each mail now brings,— letters of kind and loving sympathy that show me how my own great loss is felt as a personal loss too by so many others. I do not wish to leave all those letters without acknowledgement, so I send out this little note to you all.

From my heart I thank you for all the words of faith and of comfort that you have sent me. God only knows how sorely I have stood in need of help in these days. It has strengthened me, often, to think of the many prayers that are daily going up for me, both from my own friends, and from those who, for her sake cared for me.

And yet, in one sense, all that could be said could make no difference. Nothing can lighten my own loneliness and loss. But about Annie, I have deeper and more real comfort than any of you can know. Even those of you who knew her best cannot feel, as I do, how naturally she slipped from the life here to that above, or how pleasing beautiful to me is the thought of her free, happy life there, for which she seemed so ready, and where all that she most deeply longed for here is fully realized. There is no barrier for her.

For me, I thank God that he has laid on me all the work that I can possibly do, so that I can throw my whole self into the work. And it is the work that Annie had learned to do, so that I can do it to please her, as well as her Master.

I am glad to know that some of you are planning for such a be[illegible] Memorial. Annie's greatest suffering while she was here was in sympathy for the miser we saw about us, and I am glad indeed that in her name such a great work is to be done to relieve that suffering. May God bless the effort, and all who have a part in it.

Yours very sincerely,

Henry H. Riggs.

Mrs. N. N. Riggs
Harpoot, Sept. 27.
1905.

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Bridgman 61
Pa 14
C. 37
25
Dike 28
Tank 80
53 Kendall
65 Bridgman
Pelabal 45

Rec'd OCT 26 1905
Ans'd OCT 31 1905

Euphrates College.

HARPOOT, TURKEY, Oct. 4, 1905.

Rev. James L. Barton, D.D.,
Congregational House,
Boston, Mass.

My dear Dr. Barton;-

It is a long time since I have written to you. My letter writing has had to be neglected for the most part, in the past few weeks, as I have not been at all well, and have given all the strength I have had to the regular work of the College. I wantto thank you first of all for your very kind letters and cablegram. I knew how you would suffer with me, and the strong, kind words of so many friends have been a real help.

I have been very much pleased to hear of the effort Miss Murray is planning. The Hospital will be a peculiarly appropriate memorial to the short year of tender sympathy for the suffering, that Annie passed here, and as I believe she still is near, I am sure that she is pleased with the plan.

The College opens on the whole pretty well this year. The most marked feature is the surprising increase of students in the College classes, and in the Boarding department. In the male department we have a Freshman class of 48, making the total in the four classes 108, and in the Girls' department there are 72, an increase, if I remember aright, of over 40% over last years total enrolment. In the boys' Boarding department we have had a good deal of trouble trying to house all the boys. We have had finally to turn out the Grammar school, which has hitherto occupied part of that building, crowding that into the Primary school rooms under the High School, while the Primary, which is rather small this year, is quartered in Wheeler Hall, for the present, at least. As the primary rooms are needed imperatively for the High school, it is hard to see how we are going to manage another year unless we can have a new place for the Grammar and primary schools.

I think we have on the whole a pretty good set of boys, but such an increase in numbers is rather appalling, when one thinks how little personal attention each pupil can get from those who are really fitted to lead them out into a true Christian life. It is a time when we are deeply in need of strong faith and the constant help of the Spirit.

The work of the Self-help Department is starting in well. We have a fine man in charge of the Cabinet shop, and the shop is kept busy all the time. The tin work has just begun with the new term, and while it has at present no very wide market to work for, and only employs half a dozen or so boys, I think it will develop.

Corr. N. H.

I am making some experiments in canning fruit and vegetables, and if the experiment proves successfull, it will open the way for some added work for the boys.

We are just getting started on a locksmith and stove making establishment also, which I hope will be of no little use, as we have a good man in charge, and there is plenty of room for good work in that line. In connection with these last two industries I find use for most of the miscellaneous tools and machines that I found in a house here in the city last year; and they are proving to be worth many times the price paid for them, though at the time that was thought to be rather generous. Our Book-bindery is doing good work, and will be well fixed up when the cutting machine now on the way arrives.

"All this takes a good deal of time and attentionat first, but I feel that it is time well spent, both in the moral value of the manual training, and in the help it gives to poor boys without making them feel dependent. Without stopping to count up, I should say that I have given employment to about eighty or ninety boys this term, and the amount they will earn during the half year ought to reach about fifty liras."

The Rockefeller money is thus being set to work, gradually, though we have not made very large investments yet. Mr. Knapp advocates spending most of it in buying a farm for the Orphanage. I feel considerable hesitation about that, and doubt whether it would really meet the original purpose for which the gift was solicited and given as well as some other uses that will be needed in course of time. I would like to raisethe question as to whether it would be practicable to draw the balance of the $7000 from Mr. Rockefeller and invest it, so as to have a regular income which could be used to help on current expenses, so that the shops could serve more directly for the purpose for which they are established, by not being bound always to run on a strictly paying basis. This would of course not in any way hinder the using up of the capital for permanent plant as fast as the need for it appears.

We are all disappointed not to have Mr. Hanson come out this fall. He would have been a very great help had he come, and I hope that next year the obstacles will be removed, and he may be able to come. The more I think of it, the more I am convinced of the real need and importance of a man to devote himself to such work.

Doctor Atkinson has written to you of his dreams of a medical school here in the future, in connection with the College and the Hospital. While of course there is nothing at all definite that can come of such an idea in the immediate present, I do believe that such a branch should be a natural development of our work in the future, if this college goes on to fill the needs of this region. Whether that will come in our dey or not is amatter of which I have a good deal of doubt. But I am in fa favor of the doctor's idea of having the hospital organically connected with the college, for more reasons than one.

You recollect that you sent me some time ago a check belonging to Hounan Depoyan, who was to come here and claim it. He came, and on his request the amount of

the check was put to his credit on our deposit account. Recently he was seized by the government and deported, and I have heard nothing further from him. I tell you so that in case he should turn up in Boston you may know that his money, £178.91 is still in my care. You also sent me, last November, some checks for Minas Khachoyan. He has not been heard from yet, and his checks are still in my safe.

I wish to add one word of a strictly personal nature, which I am encouraged to do by your constant sympathy and interest in my work. The trial through which God is leading me has in some respects deepened and strenthened my own personal life, spiritually, at least. But in another way it has broken me down more than others realize. I do not know what the future may bring forth, but it is a fact that I have for the present lost courage. I have never had any confidence in my own fitness for this work, and experience only adds certainty to the feeling that the real missionary work of the college would be more efficiently carried out if a better qualified man wer in my place. Perhaps my physical condition is partly responsible for the particular discouragement that I now feel, but the real reason lies deeper than that, and will not, I know, pass when I am more settled in health. I do not mean to doubt that God has brought me here. But if that was only for a temporary work, and if that work is nearly done, I should be very glad. I do not at all mean that I would wish to shirk any burden laid upon me. I would gladly "burn out" right here. But the spiritual needs of this college, and my failure thus far in trying to meet them, make me feel that if someone whose ability is more in the line of influencing others could take my place, and leave me to serve tables, the work would be better done. I wish you would watch for the right sort of a man, and when he is found, I stand ready to step out of his way.

Yours very sincerely,

Henry H. Riggs.

Henry A. Riggs

Harfoot-

Oct. 4-1905.

284
Rec'd JAN 1 1906
Ans'd FEB 2 1906

Euphrates College.

HARPOOT, TURKEY, Dec. 8, 1905.

Rev. James L. Barton, D.D.,
Congregational House,
Boston, Mass.

My dear Dr. Barton;-

Last week I returned from my long absence toward the south, and am just beginning to get work well in hadd again;- though there are still many matters that are waiting, so that I cannot give a great deal of time to letters. Yours of the 31st of October came last week, and I wish briefly to answer it.

You wrote of the possibility of consolidating the industrial work into an industrial or technical department of the college. You wrote before suggesting that if Mr. Hanson should come, all the industries, both Orphan and College, might be so united. I am inclined to favor the plan, eventually. Just now, I am not sure that any steps can be taken in that direction. The Orphanage work, being in process of being closed out, is in rather too shifting a condition for any permanent arrengements to be planned for. I think that it is Mr. Knapp's plan that a small residuum should be a permanent Orphanage, and when that is difinitely arrived at, I think the consolidation of the industries will be a proper step. At present I feel as if we were rather feeling our way in the matter, and I hope that time will develop the best methods.

Probably Dr. Barnum has reported College matters to you during my absence He very cordially took up the responsibilities of the oversight of the college while I was away, and thing hawe been going on very smoothly and satisfactorily. My impression as I return is that the spiritual atmosphere is rather better than it has been since of late. The work of Badveli Yeghoyan is not without effect, though I am sorry to say that he has not gotten into very close sympathy with the best of our teachers. I hope that will be overcome in time.

I wrote you before leaving here in a very discouraged tone. What I said was what looked to me true at that time, but I was hardly in my right mind then. I thank you for your sympathetic words in reply. But I do, as you hoped, feel quite differently about it, now that I am well and strong, and have had an opportunity to look at matters from a distance. The trip to Aintab was a great blessing to me, both physically and especially spiritually, and I have come back determined to ask, "not for tasks equal to my strength, but for strength equal to my tasks." I am none the less conscious of how much I lack in fitness for the spiritual side of my work, but I have a clearer faith in Him from whom our strength comes.

I received yesterday a letter from Mr. Hovnan Depoyan regarding his defosit with

me. He asks that I pay to his Father five liras, which I have done; and to send the balance to you to transmit to him when he calls for it. The balance amounts to $173.91, and I will ask Mr. Peet to send you a check for that amount, so closing the account, so far as I am concerned.

Others will perhaps write you of the earthquake and its results. When we saw the Clouds of dust rise from the villages on the plain immediately after the severe shock of Monday morning, Dr. Atkinson and Miss Parnum and I set out at once to see if immediate help was needed. We visited Morenik and Kesirik together, and Dr. A. went also to Yeghike. In all those places we found that the houses were very generally injured, and many of them totally destroyed, but no lives were lost, and comparatively few were in any way injured. The destruction of property was very great. I could not form any accurate idea of the amount of damage, but should make a guess that in Morenik fully one quarter of the houses were so damaged as to be beyond repair, and will have to be rebuilt. The Other villages were perhaps better built, and did not suffer quite so much. The Kesirik Gregorian Church is damaged very seriously, apparently it will have to be practically rebuilt. The Hoilou Gregorian Church has lost half of its roof, and I suppose that most of the buildings of the villages on the plain are strained and injured. Strange to say, Mezireh has escaped with only slight injuries. Reports from distant places are still indefinite, but it would seem that Egin, Erzingan, and Malatia have suffered some, though we hear of no loss of life. It is reported that the fall of the Minaret in Perchenj killed one or two, but I have not heard from authoritative sources. Since ~~Tues~~ Monday morning there has been a succession of shocks, some ten of fifteen perceptible ones, some of them strong enough to add to the destruction in the villages, I fear.

Doubtless there will be much suffering in the villages this winter. I do not know how much need there will be for relief. We will probably call for help as soon as reliable reports of the need can be secured. But the abject terror of the people, even here in the city where no injury has been done, is pitiful to see. To add to the fear, the rumor spread on Monday evening that there was to be another shock , worse than the first, at midnight. The police diligently spread this rumor, warning all not to sleep, and to stay out of doors. Late that night three Turks came, presented the Mufti's selaam; and asked me to tell him at what time the shock was to come. It was invain that we assured everyone that the prediction was false, and that no one could predict the coming of a shock. Everybody was excited, and most of our pupils were hysterical. I ha had to use strong measures to keep the boys from going out to spend the night in the cold. Last night was almost as bad, as there were two very distinct shocks shortly before bedtime. Of course it is a time of rather trying nervous strain for us all, and some of our pupils have sustained minor injuries in their haste to leave buildings when the shocks have been felt, but otherwise we here in the city have sustained no injury and have no reason to fear. "We will not fear though the earth be moved." has a new meaning for us now.

Yours very sincerely,

Henry H. Riggs

Later, I have been examining the walls of Wheeler Hall, and find the south wall rather badly strained, slightly cracked in several places. Not serious, however. The cracks are old!

Henry H. Riggs III

Harpoot - Turkey Dec. 6 - 1905.

Rec'd MAR 16 1906 285

Euphrates College.

HARPOOT, TURKEY, Feb. 15, 1906.

Rev. J. L. Barton, D. D.,
Congregational House, Boston.

My Dear Dr. Barton;-

Some time ago I wrote to you, and received a reply, with regard to a bust of Dr. Wheeler that the Alumni wished to get as a memorial. At that time the cost which you stated as a probable minimum was so high that I thought the matter would be dropped. The Alumni, however, have been more successful in raising money than they had hoped, and they have deposited with me somewhat over six hundred dollars, and they now ask that I write to you, and request that you attend to having the bust made. It is to be life size, and of bronze. I think that you mentioned six hundred dollars as the probable cost. Of course they would be glad if a good bust can be made at less cost than that. But if not, they are willing to pay as much as that, and they ask that the bust be made without delay.

I presume that Dr. Barnum keeps you informed of the general run of events here I have been very much pleased with the way the influence of the meetings last term has carried over into this. Of course there are a good many who have forgotten, or who have dropped back, if they ever really came forward at all. But there is a group of young men who seem to be dead in earnest, and they are hard at work, and no one who sees them can doubt the reality of the change in them. The influence of this element in the school is excellent. I feel that we have entered on a new period of religious life, and I hope that it will be a period of real and lasting progress.

On the other hand, we have just had to expell two boys. The real reason for there expulsion was that their moral influence was bad. The occasion was different in the two cases. It has made me feel very bad to have these boys go, for they are both boys with whom I had worked a good deal, and I had hoped for better things. I have had several instances lately of the difficulty,-almost impossibility,- of my helping such boys personally, so long as they feel that what they say to me is to count in the way they are treated by the college. Both of these boys had made most earnest professions of a new life, in private conversation with me; but it seems to have been pure policy in both cases. It is when I see my failure in such things as this that I want to have someone here who has a gift along that line.

Yours very sincerely,

Henry H. Riggs.

Henry H. Riggs

Harpoot - Turkey. Feb. 15 - 1906.

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REC'D APR 23 1906

Euphrates College.

HARPOOT, TURKEY, March 29, 1906.

Rev. James L. Barton, D.D.,
Congregational House,
Boston, Mass.

My dear Dr. Barton;-

I have three letters from you to acknowledge, dated Feb. 2, 13, and 19. But first I want to tell you how well all sympathize with you in the additional burdens that are laid upon you by the illness of Dr. Smith, and with him in his great great loss. I need not say to you that my own feeling for him is beyond words.

I am much disappointed at the decision that Mr. Hanson is not to come out to us this year, and from what you write I do not see that there is prospect of his coming in the near future, either. I am afraid that the industrial work will suffer some this spring because I cannot give it all the attention that it needs. The same might be said of a good many lines of work, and I have made up my mind that for the coming year I will have to have the help of a secretary, to take off of my hands a good deal of the clerical work that has hitherto fallen on me. A letter from Mr. Davis today says that the Board of Trustees had decided to send out another tutor if one could be found. I feel very glad of that decision, and I trust the right man can be secured at once. I think that my brother wrote you some time ago about Mr. George Stewart, and he is writing you this week again. He would be a fine man, if we get him.

My brother is also writing to you of the matter of a gymnasium. Mr. Davis suggested to me some time ago that I write to Mr. Pashgian in regard to atheletic work here, toward which he wants to do something. I wrote him suggesting the need of a gymnasium, and later I sent him the plan that my brother has made out, tentatively, but I have heard nothing from Mr. Pashgian from the first letter, and the last only went a few weeks ago, so that there has not been time for an answer. I shall write to Mr. Davis about this, so that it need not be a burden on your mind, amid all your other burdens. I have in mind another much-needed addition, for which I hope to provide without calling on the treasury, or on any regular contributors. It is a physical and chemical laboratory, with a place for the telescope on it. If I do not find the means to do it otherwise, I am afraid I shall be calling on the Trustees at some time not far off for the means to build such an addition, for we ought to have it.

Your last letter, which came last week, was about Minas Khachoian's Money. I am having his checks cashed here, as it is a convenient to have the money here, and I will enclose an order on the treasurer for the amount, which you will kindly pay

to Minas. The money market here is in a frightful condition now. There seems to be no money available, and everyone is hard up. To cash these checks I have to wait about ten days and then pay about ~~xxx~~ three quarters of one percent premium, while others are offering as high as two percent premium, I am told. The country seems to be literally squeezed dry. I have sent for money from Sivas, where the situation is not so bad.

The religious interest that was so manifest a few weeks ago is assuming a much quieter form now, and I think some of my associates are inclined to feel that it is an unsatisfactory sign. I think, however, that the net results are not by any means all in yet. It is hard to measure results, of course, but I think there is every reason to feel encouraged and hopeful for the future. I am especially pleased with the spirit manifested in the Theological class. They have grown wonderfully in the past year,-all of them, and I hope great things from them.

I must not take more of your time, thought, and let me assure you that though I miss your letters when they do not come, I hope you will leave me out when necessary, for I appreciate the situation and do not want you to feel the necessity of writing to me.

Very cordially,

Henry H. Riggs.

Harpoot Turkey. Mar. 29-1906.

Rec'd MAY 2 1906
Ans'd MAY 2 1906
Ans'd MAY 22 1906

Euphrates College.

HARPOOT, TURKEY, April 6, 1906.

Rev. James L. Barton, D. D.,
Congregational House, Boston.

My dear Dr. Barton;-

I have only time today to reply to one point in your letter of March 12, to which I hope to answer more fully later. From that letter it was evident that my brother's letter, written in January, telling you of the young man to whom he had written about coming here, had miscarried. We both know George B. Stewart, of Princeton, and feel that he would be a fine man for the place, if he will come. My brother wrote to him a good while ago, and I also wrote to him, but it may be that, as he knew that a letter had gone to you about him, he is waiting to hear from you before taking any steps in the matter.

We therefore decided to cable, and did so yesterday, saying, "George Stewart, Princeton, recommended tutor." I hope this has gone to you without being garbled, and that in case you have not made any other definite arrangements, you may find this a clue to a successful search for the right man.

I feel very grateful for the action of the Trustees in deciding to send out another tutor, and I hope nothing will hinder the carrying out of the plan.

Yours very sincerely,

Henry H. Riggs.

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Harpoot Turkey Apr. 6-1906.

Rec'd MAY 28 1906

Ans'd JUN 2 1906

Euphrates College.

HARPOOT, TURKEY, May 4, 1906.

Rev. J. L. Barton, D.D.
Congregational House,
Boston, Mass.

My dear Dr. Barton;-

The post has already gone from here, but I want to get off a letter to you, so shall send it to Mezereh;- Writing has been delayed by various causes.

Yesterday's post brought your letter telling of the appointment of Mr. French as tutor here. I need not tell you that we are all rejoiced that the new tutor is assured. I hope he may turn out to be just the man that we need, and that he will fit in well in the work that needs to be done. I feel like thanking you particularly for taking hold of the matter so strongly. I see now that our cable of a few weeks ago was not needed, as you had received my brothers letter, after all.

The same mail brought the letter from Mr. Bashgian, saying that he would be willing to stand the expense for a gymnasium building. The Board of Managers had a special meeting todan, and accepted the plan and appointed a committee to plan and put up the building. We shal proceed at once to send in the necessary notice tothe Legation at Constantinople, and as soon as I receive authorization from Mr. Davis to spend the necessary money, I shall go ahead. It is just possible that we may persuade the local government to allow us to build the Gymnasium without Constantinople orders, but if we do not succeed in that we shall have to wait till six months has elapsed. The Managers also voted to make application at the same time for two other buildings. The first is a small recitation room addition to be put up behind the Girls school, to accomodate the very much over-crowded Girls' College. This application goes to Constantinople now, without waiting to plan definitely for the funds for the building. If the Board of Trustees approve, will they, at their special meeting, authorize the expenditure of, say, sixty liras for such a building? It seems to be an almost absolute necessity in the near future, as the College is growing in numbers, and is already full.

The second plan is for a laboratory for our physical and chemical work, for both departments. It was voted to make the application through the Legation now, and to authorize the President to try to secure the money for this building from some source outside the funds of the College funds. We ought to have one hundred liras to fit it out, and I am going at once to try to get some one to give this sum. At present the Physics and Chemistry work is too crowded to be longer endured, with our large classes, and the telescope the Static induction machine, and such bulky things

re standing in my office, as there is positively no place to put them in the College.

Another decision of the Managers was to give Mr. H. Boujicanian a two years' eave of absence to study in Europe, if he can get away. Mr. Davis once wrote in egard to that that as funds are low we will have to wait for such expenditures till etter times, or something to that effect. But at just this time we can give Mr. oujicanian this leave of absence without much additional expense, as his work can be arried by others at this time, while later on it will not be so easy. It will not be ecessary to get an extra teacher for that purpose, and we shall only by £25 for traveng expenses, and continue his salary. I would say that In my opinion this is a very mportant thing to be done, and that it will be the best investment of the money that e could make. You will remember that We offered this opportunity to Mr. Soghigian wo years ago, but he did not succeed in getting away. As he has been made Professor, t will be just as well for him to wait till after Mr. Boujicanian has had his turn efore trying again.

Several other matters must wait till next time, as this must go to catch the ost. Please pardon this hasty letter,

Yours very sincerely,

Henry H Riggs.

Harpoot. Turkey May 4-1906.

Rec'd JUN 25 1906
Ans'd JUL 9 1906

Euphrates College.

HARPOOT, TURKEY, June 1, 1906.

Rev. James L. Barton, D. D.
Congregational House,
Boston, Mass.

My dear Dr. Barton;-

Your letter of April 30 came by last week's mail. Thank you very much for your full letter. It is very cheering to hear so much of the interest of the Alumni in the College, and the practical way in which they are showing it.

This whole matter of the interest and loyalty of the Alumni has been a subject of much thankfulness, and of much thought of late. I have been revolving in my own mind a plan which I would like to suggest to you. As it involves an amendment to the Constitution of the College, I suppose that I can only make a suggestion to you, and if it meets your approval, you can propose the amendment.

As you know, from the first we have felt the need of native members on the local Board of Managers; I have rather urged the plan, and I think that the results fully justify our action in electing two or three native members. The native members have brought us valuable light on many questions, and their presence on the board has silenced much criticism that I feel sure would otherwise have been brought upon the College, as it has on other institutions here.

Article VI of the constitution provides that "when the native constituency of the College shall have contributed the sum of £t 1000 to the Endowment Fund, The Harpoot Evangelical Union of the Churches shall be entitled to elect" one member of the Board. There have been some queries of late as to the total amount of the funds raised by the native constituency of the College, and as to whether the time has not come to have a member elected by the Union. This brings up the question whether technically the scholarship funds that have been subscribed this past year can be counted into the £t 1000. It also brings up the question whether none of those who have contributed the fund shall have any voice in the election of their representative. By the terms of the Constitution you notice that none of them are included.

Now I foresee that if the present provisions of the Constitution are carried out, it means that there will be no little perplexity and perhaps hard feeling, and, I think, with some justice. I therefore would suggest to cut the knot in this way. Let the Constitution be amended to provide that, in view of the active and generous interest of the Alumni of Euphrates College in their Alma Mater up to the present time, the Alumni shall, in 1907, elect one member of the Board of Managers, and that his successsors every four years be elected by the Alumni. That in the future, as the

gifts of the Alumni increase, their representation be increased, either according to some fixed ratio, or at the discretion of the Trustees.

In addition to this, I would suggest that, as it is desireable to have the College kept in close sympathy with the Churches, and as it is entirely out of the question for them to contribute to the expenses of the College at present, they be given the right, through the Union of the Churches, to elect one member in 1908, and to elect his successor every four years in the future. I would suggest, moreover, that, instead of holding out the hope of more representation on condition of their adding to the permanent funds, it be provided that when the churches shall give annually toward the running expenses of the College, gifts amounting to one hundred liras, they be entitled to another representative on the Board. It should be clearly stipulated that this means gifts, for they have heretofore claimed the right to representation on the ground of what the people pay for tuition.

I have talked this matter over with most of my associates. They are all in favor of alumni representation, and make no objection to the Union having a representative, though on this point some are not so positive as I am. Some are inclined to put in a limiting clause in providing that the majority of the Board shall always remain Americans, or elected by the Missionaries. For myself, I am not at all worried about ~~about~~ the matter. In the first place the possibility of a native majority is at best a distant one. And even if it were not;- I have very great confidence in the judgement of our Alumni and other native friends. My experience in working on the principle of complete responsibility and final authority in our faculty here,(which I adopted when I first came), has led me to feel no fear of evil results should the responsibility of a majority of the Board of Managers fall on the men whom our Alumni elect. I make these suggestions largely on my own responsibility, for what they are worth. If the Trustees think best to adopt them,I hope they may be considered at the next regular meeting, as the matter is liable to be agitated by the Union at its meeting in the latter part of this month, and if it is I shall put them off with the statement that the matter is under consideration at Boston.

You write also of Col Hopkins gift of half of the new tutor's salary. That is very encouraging news, and I havejust written to Col. Hopkins, as you suggested. I hope that this does not mean that he will not be able to do something for the needed Primary building. I did not mention that to him, as I suppose that there is no need of my doing so, but I am quite banking on having that building. However, dear Dr. Barton, please do not let my insistence on this need make you feel as I imagine you Secretaries at home often feel in the presence of such appeals. If the need cannot be met at present, we will simply have to accept it, and I know perfectly well when I write to you that you are doing and will do all that you can. I do not write repeatedly to urge you, but to furnish you facts and materials to use as you find opportunity.

We have just made application to the local authorities for a permit to

erect quarters for our tin and iron shops. I have had it in mind to do this for some time, as the shops have not room for proper work. Now it is proposed to build this shop on the ground intended for the Gymnasium, half of which is ten feet lower than the other half. This will, when the gymnasium is built, form a basement on the west side, reducing the expense both of gymnasium and shop. I hope that the local authorities will grant the permit for the shop, and then when we get the order from Constantinople for the Gym. we can go ahead at once.

A good many have expressed surprise at the low figure given for the cost of the Gymnasium It may be that I am too sanguine, but I have some ideas about construction that will, I hope, make the building cheaper than most buildings of its size. And I am hopeful of getting it done within the $350.

Mr. Carey left us this morning for a trip toward the south. His journey will be in some respects much like mine last fall, but he plans to go further. I hope he will get a good supply of health for the coming two years. He has worked very hard for the present class, and I think they have been worth all the work that has been put on them. I think there is every reason to have great hope for most of them in the ministry, one or two are very undeveloped as yet, but I hope in the end all of them will be useful workers. They certainly have all of them grown and softened during the two years of the course.

I do not remember that I have written to you about my own plans for the summer. I would prefer to stay here and work, if I had the staying power, but I guess the doctor is right in advising my getting away for a while. So my brother and sister and I are planning to visit Marsovan, and some of us will also have to go on to Constantinople for dentistry. So I shall not be back here before the latter half of August.

With cordial regards,

Yours very sincerely,

Henry H. Riggs.

Harbor Surveyor.

Since 1-1906.

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Rec'd SEP 24 1906
Ans'd JAN 25 1907

Euphrates College.

HARPOOT, TURKEY, Sept. 1, 1906.

Rev. James L. Barton, D.D.,
Congregational House, Boston,

My dear Dr. Barton;-

I have not found much time for writing letters this summer, and since getting back to my post there have been a good many things that have taken the precedence of letters. So this is only a note to tell you that I am back at my post, and at work. My summer vacation was a rather strenuous one, as mostof the time was spent on the road, and while at Constantinople and Marsovan I was at work almost all the time. But it was the best possible way for me to spend the time, and I have returned with good health and vigor. I hope to keep well, and to do better work than I did last year.

I have not yet got off my annual account and report. I understood from Mr. Davis that the time of the Meeting of the Trustees will not be put much earlier, even with the change of the financial year at this end, so I have not hastened to get it off soon. I shall get at it soon.

You wrote in a recent letter of the question of the formal appointment of my sister Mary. As she is now doing the work that Miss Huntington had, or substantially the same, I do not see any reason why she should not be supported and appointed in the same way. Of course she does, in addition to school work, a great deal for me personally, and it is more help than I can tell, to have her here, but I do not see that that should necessitate the College bearing the expense of her salary. This is in

Mr. Carey has returned, and reports himself very well. The Seminary opens on Monday. At present there are seven candidates on the ground, but two or three more will certainly come. Yesterday the Cooperative Committee examined five candidates who are under the care of this Union, and accepted all of them. It was done, however, in a most ungracious way, and did nothing to add to good feelings on any side. Some of the members of the Commettee are avowedly opposed to the Seminary, and one of them assumed throughout the meeting an attitude of sulky aloofness, refusing to vote or express any opinion of the candidates. I hope much prayer will be offered that in some way this state of enmity may be removed, for to my mind it is hardly worth while for the Seminary to go on in this way.

Prospects for the entering classes in College are good, though of course we cannot count our chickens yet.

With cordial regards, Yours very truly,

Henry H. Riggs.

Harpoot - Turkey Sept. 1 - 1906.

Rec'd DEC 10 1906

Ans'd DEC 13 1906

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Muslim Colleges

Euphrates College.

HARPOOT, TURKEY, Nov. 14, 1906.

Rev. J. L. Barton, D. D.,
Congregational House,
Boston, Mass.

My dear Dr.Barton;-

I see that my last letter to you was written six weeks ago, and was only a brief one, promising another, with my annual report, "soon". You see how prompt I amin such matters of late. As an apology or explanation I can only say that there is a pile of work waiting all the time, since I got back in the fall, and that the things that can be put off are the things that get left.

Two matters of very serious importance have been in my mind for some time, and I must not longer delay writing of them. One is our present crowded condition in the Male department. I wrote forecasting it before the term opened, but I did not at that time anticipate any such deluge as we have now on our hands. We have a hundred and sixty in the College department, sixty five of them Freshmen. One hundred and three or four boarders. You will remember that last year we had 108 College boys, 43 Freshmen, and 86 boarders. Our buildings were full then, and it is rather hard to say how they have all got in. This fall we have got along fairly well in the College hall, as no stove has been needed yet, and by putting desks clear up to the edge of the platform, to the doors on both sides, and clear back to the wall in the back, we have seated the crowd. In the Dormitory building, by putting more boys in a room, by turning the sitting room into a dormitory, and filling every available corner, the boys can all sleep. But now that the winter is on, and we will have to have stoves, it will be dreadfully crowded. We are trying now to find a place reasonably near where we can put some of our boys so as to relieve the crowding in the Dormitory, and in the College hall we will pile them up a little closer and stand it as best we can.

The lower departments are better than the College. But still, the Gurtaran has to sit in two rooms for their study room, as there is no one room large enough for them all to sit together. And their recitation rooms are not large enough for the boys to be reasonably comfortable. Twenty five boys can sit in a room 10x14 ft., but it is not ideal. The Mangaran has no habitat of its own, but occupies part of Wheeler Hall, behind the partitions under the gallery. They have their recitations there, in the Hall proper, and in the one small recitation room that can be spared for them from the other schools. Now that winter is on, they will have to have two lessons at once in their study room, as the main hall cannot be heated for one small class.

Now there are two ways out of this difficulty. One is to send off a lot of the boys. I suspect that we shall have to do so anyway by raising the price of board, for the present price does not cover the cost. But even yet, unless I am much mistaken, there will be more boarders than we have any possible place for next year. And that will not help out on the class rooms, for students are most of them day pupils. We are trying to be more strict in our requirements. We weeded out a good many last year, and have on the whole a very good lot of boys now, in spite of numbers. So that it is hard to see how we can reduce the numbers much except by simply refusing admittance, which seems pretty hard.

If we are not going to do this, then we must have more space. We have said this for some time past, and then we have crowded and crowded till now it has come to the actual physical limit. And it has really passed the limit, for we are crowding beyond proper limits because the crowd took us by surprise. The plan which seems to me the one that will meet the needs with the least expenditure of money is this. First, take out the partitions that separate the College hall from the two small recitation rooms on the same floor, making the whole upper story one hall. This, with our present number of students, will give very comfortable accomodations and if we should have an increase, as we certainly are likely to, it will hold, with crowding, possibly thirty more, or even 40. To supply the place of the two recitation rooms thus removed, we should have a new science building, which can be located just behind the Presidents house, according to plans already approved by the Managers and sent in to the Embassy for Imperial permission to build. All that is lacking is the money. The Plans include a laboratory on the first floor, and on the second floor a recitation room, or, what would be better, the Library, leaving the present library room for recitation purposes

This would provide for the College. For the lower schools, as I have written before, the best plan in sight at present is to purchase and remodel the Silk factory, to accomodate both Gurtaran and Mangaran, leaving the present Gurtaran rooms for the use of the Varzharan, which is being crowded out of the College building. Hitherto two or three Varzharan lessons have been held there. This year they have one, and next year, when three College classes will have to be divided on account of numbers, there will be no place at all for Varzharan classes in the College building.

For the boarding department, if we get the silk factory, as it seems we must, some of the smaller boys can be put in there with a teacher, as there is a good deal of room there. This, if we have no further increase in numbers, will meet the situation for the present. But if there is further increase, we uill still be overcrowded. Eventually, if the college is to take the leading place in this region that it ought to, the boarding accomodations must be enlarged. For that purpose I have long had in mind the building now occupied as a stable, (formerly Badv. Mardiros's house). It is adjacent to the Dormitory, and was built with a view to future use for such purposes. This will involve putting up another stable. As you know, when Wheeler

Hall was built, the stable was removed from the lower story, which had been built and paid for by the station. When the Cabinet shop took posession of that place, the Ruin of Badv.Mardiros's house was rebuilt, paid for from Industrial funds, and the lower part finished off as a stable, temporarily.

I have written only of the needs of the Male Department. It is practically essential that the Girls' College hall be likewise enlarged next year, as they are almost as crowded as the boys. This will involve the elimination of two recitation rooms, and with the approval of the Managers, I made plans for additional rooms outside of the Girls' College building, and sent the plans in, with others, to Constantinople, so that when the time came we could have the permit ready.

Now I have put the case to the best of my ability without coloring or exaggeration, I think, and I think that you can see that the situation has reached a point where it cannot longer be put off. Something must be done. And it is money that will do the business. For the remodelling of the College Halls the expense would be trifling. But for the extra recitation rooms for the Girls' Dept. and the Science building and Library,(for both boys and girls) two or three hundred liras would be needed, depending on the size of the buildings. For the Silk factory, and expense of remodelling it, one thousand liras is a low estimate, probably eleven or twelve hundred would be nearer. Then when the present stable is vacated and a new one built, which I am inclined not to consider as absolutely essential this year, that will cost at least two hundred liras more. That makes a building program of $7500. I have started out to try to get some individual to give the Science building. But thus far I have not succeeded. My acquaintance with moneyd men is not large, and I cannot tease them much by letter at this distance, anyway.

I think I understand the finances of the College well enough to know that this cannot come out of the regular funds, as every cent of the income is needed, and we cannot afford to reduce the interest-bearing funds any more. And while I am on the subject, I may as well say that to my mind, there is serious need of a considerable increase of our budget for teachers' salaries. Although living expenses are, so far as I can make out, higher here than in either Marsovan or Aintab, the salaries of our Professors are only sixty percent of what they are in Marsovan, and considerably less than those in Aintab,- I am not sure of the rates there. Conditions are not the same here that they are in those places, but my opinion is that the salaries ought to be raised considerably. I ought to say that not all the members of the board of Managers agree with me entirely in this matter; but they do to some extent, and if there is not an actual deficit to be met by that time, I think that by two years from now our Salary budget will, without any general or radical raising of salaries, reach 1250 liras, as against about a thousand this year.

I shall write again of this matter in time for the regular meeting of the Trustees. But it may be you and mr. Davis will wish to make some plans and take some steps before that meeting, so I write in full now. What steps must be taken, I do not know. If I were an experienced money raiser, I should offer to go to England or America and get the money needed. But I have never tried my hand at that, and from my own knowledge of myself I do not think I am naturally fitted for it. I am afraid that a trip abroad for that purpose at this stage of my experience would be a failure. So I do not recommend that. Of course you are not in a position to do it yourself. I do not know whether Mr. Davis has either time or strength for it. The Alumni are doing fine work in raising scholarship funds, but that does not help us to the buildings. Possibly some of them, in coöperation with some of the trustees, might do it; but that does not seem very practicable. All that seems perfectly clear is that we need, and really must have seven or eight thousand dollars for buildings, and we ought to have have a considerable increase in our endowment if we are going to progress.

This latter point could be largely expanded if I had time and you had patience. We want to add a business course, and an Agricultural course, for the needs of the country are imperatively in that line. These wait for funds. Our standard of quality in our teachers is high; but more teachers from abroad, or educated abroad, would mean a great strengthening of our work. But this is impossible wethout more funds. And so forth and so forth ad lib. I forgot to say that as the Protestant Community in this quarter are now planning to build, the note for £t 270 given by Dr. Gates for the chapel site will come due in course of time, perhaps within a year. Also that two houses in the region of the Silk factory, which it would be most desireable for the College to own, are now for sale, at low rates.

But I must turn to the other subject. That is the matter of another American Tutor. my Brother, who came out for three years, returns to America this coming summer. He has been urged to stay another year. But I confess to sympathizing with him in his wish to go back to finish his course of study without further delay. And so, although it would be exceedingly helpful to me personally to have him stay, as well as good for the College, I have not pressed him very much. I do not think he will stay. His place must be filled in some way, and it seems to me that it is quite important that it should be filled by another American. This was my opinion before, but it is made much more imperative by the facts in regard to Mr. French. He is not a strong man, physically. I have wondered whether he would live long. He himself has talked about returning next spring to America. He is not at all a dependable element. But even if he should get well, and be able to go on with his work, he ought to have a strong associate. I should dread very much having the whole burden of the English work fall on him. It would be a serious set back to the progress we have made in that line. In any case, it seems to me imperative that the necessary steps should be taken

at once to secure another tutor for next year. The best men are likely to be settled early, so the sooner the better, for we want a first class man, of course.

Some time ago I wrote to you about the matter of native members on the Board of managers. As you suggested in reply, we as a Station decided to ask the Alumni to choose a member this coming spring, without waiting for a change in the Constitution, and to ask the Union to choose a member next year. This plan is altogether satisfactory in one way, as it enables us to have the Alumni choose their member as we wished. But a difficulty is already in the air. The Members of the Union, who know that the first one thousand liras have already been completed, may, at their meeting next summer, demand in a most insistent way, that their right to elect a member at once be recognized. And the Alumni are making a strong effort to raise their gifts to two thousand liras at once. If that should be done before any change is made in the Constitution, I presume that the Union would proceed without delay to elect their three members of the Board. If, as at present planned, we give the Alumni the right two years hence to elect another member, it would make half of the Board natives at once. I am not sure that that is an undesireable outcome. But I do not think it was contemplated by these who framed the Constitution. Furthermore, if any change should be made after the Union have once elected their members, it would be the cause of much more bitter feeling than if it were done at once.

College is running very smoothly thus far, in spite of the great crowd. The boys on the whole seem like a good set of fellows, and there is in general a quite earnestness that promises well. The shops have been developed to about their final shape and are doing well, in every way. I will report that work in detail to the Trustees.

Yours very sincerely,

Henry H. Riggs.

Harpoot - Turkey - Nov. 14 - 1906.

Re the needs of the College

Euphrates College.

HARPOOT, TURKEY, Jan. 10, 1907.

Mr. J. W. Davis,
Congregational House,
Boston, Mass.

My dear Mr. Davis;-

The post last week went off without warning a day ahead of the usual time, leaving all of my mail, including my annual account and report. I ought to have got them off earlier, as the account was an old one, and the report might have been ready sooner, except for the feeling I have had all along that any time would do till the regular time for the meeting of the Trustees in February. Now Ihave a good deal to write, and as Dr. Barton is awar I will write it all to you.

The account this year is only for half a year, till the end of June. As I wrote you once before, there are a good many reasons here for having the books close in June rather than December. As you had no objections to the plan, I have started it, though from your letter I gather that it will not be convenient to have the meeting of the Trustees soon after that. I do not know that it makes serious difference, as accounts will keep. The statement that I enclose is for half a year, but it does not at all fairly represent half of a years accounts, for there are a good many items that are not divided. This will, however, serve to keep up the continuity of the accoun counts, and next June I will be able to make out a statement which will cover the school year, and truly represent a year's work.

Some items on the statements need a word of explanation. You see that the debtor balance on the Boarding Department still stands, though somewhat reduced. You suggested last year that the debt ought to be paid off from year to year. I intend to do so, and shall probably make some definite provision for it at the end of this year. But to prevent the recurrence of such a debt in the future, I think it will be necessar ry to increase our charge for board the coming year. Thereafter I think we will make some arrangement by which such a debt will be made impossible hereafter.

The item "Outstanding drafts" is the sum of those drafts on Mr. Peet which I have issued but which have not yet been charged by him in the monthly statement of accounts which he sends me. When a draft is sold, it is credited on the cash account, and stands there till the corresponding charge comes from Mr. Peet. It takes nearly a month for letters to go and come. Merchants sometimes keep such drafts for some time, and then Mr. Peets' statements are always some months behind time in reaching here. so altogether the amount of money represented by such drafts is considerable.

I have, as you see, set apart as an account by itself, the Loaning library. It so hap-

See my question Feb 27 1906

pens that it is rather far behind just at present, but it ought, in the long run, to pay for itself, so I have decided to keep it separate, for a while, at least, and not make any charge or credit each year. The fund is used for purchasing text books, which are afterwards let to students from year to year till they are worn out. The returns pay for the book in five years, and the life of most books is more than that.

The Self.help, or Industrial Department shows up as pretty heavily in debt. That is due to two or three reasons. The remittance of £stg 500 which was sent for that fund in June, did not of course rech here in time to get into this account, and as the funds are separate, I have not charged anything on the general account. Then, too, something like £t 200 of tae debt is in lumber which will be used in building the Hospital and Gymnasium. It was purchased with this money because it was bought by our men and along with other lumber. We have, during the past year, purchased lare supplies of lumber, as it seemed the best way to invest the money at our disposal. The lumber will appreciate in value quite as much as the interest accruing on the money otherwise invested, and probably much more.

It was decided to put the Scholarship Fund at the disposal of the Female Department as well as the Male. In spite of this fact, it is now larger than it was a year ago, as a good many student have paid up their notes, and there has been some increase from other sources.

Four items in the account may seem to you to overlap, "Building and Repairs," "Care of Premises," "Incidentals," and "Miscellaneous." I found it convenient to separate the first two, because at a time of building it is quite impossible to keep the cost of new buildings quite separate from repairs to others that may be going on at the same time; while janitorship, watchmen, insurance, etc, are quite a separate account. Incidentals is an account strictly for Boarding pupils, of fuel, lights, washing, etc, and the fuel for heating all the buildings. The payments made by boarders somewhat more than covers the cost of these items during the year, and the balance is turned in to pay for repairs of buildings. But taking the account in the middle of a year, when the supplies are bought but the receipts are only half in, it leaves a deficit. I have charged it in, as the next year's account will be complete in itself. **The Miscellaneous** account, as its name implies, is a catch-all for all the items that belong nowhere else, but there are a few items that are regularly charged there from year to year. These include the recompense paid to the school monitors, bell-ringers, clerical work, stationary, postage, etc.

The remittances from Miss Wheeler for orphans have been kept entirely separate from the other accounts, but I have made it a custom to let Miss Daniels draw the amounts as soon as I have heard from you thatthey have been sent, as it takes a long time for the items to get worked through the accounts at Constantinople and actually reach here. This being the case, it will make absolutely no difference to us here whether or not they are sent separately to Mr. Peet, as I go on your statements anyway,- except that the loss on exchange in Constantinople will have to be separately accounted, whereas now it is stated in Mr. Peet's account each time. This

is, however, of no significance, and I think it will be simpler to do as you suggest, crediting Miss Wheeler on your books each time, and notifying me of the amount.

In the whole matter of remittances, you have observed that I have not been very forehanded. In fact I have frequently allowed matters to run till his account showed a narrow margin, and then sent in haste for more money, which is not a good method, as his statements are generally some months behind. This has partly been due to carelessness on my part, and partly because I have not all the data in hand for an estimate in advance. I would like to suggest a change, to one of two methods. Either let Mr. Peet notify you, each month, of the balance to our credit, and draw on you wheen needed to make it right. Or else let the regular income be sent on, say quarterly, as it comes to hand, and then it would be necessary to call for special remittances only when there was special occasion for them. How would one of these plans work? the latter might keep more money idle in Constantinople. I do not wish to dodge the labor of keeping the matter in my own hands, but if I do so in the future I shall feel it necessary to keep more of a balance in Constantinople, as it takes some time to correspond from this distance.

Turning from financial to other matters, I will only add a few words to my already long report. The need of another tutor is very urgent next year. It is pretty likely now that Mr. French will withdraw at the end of the College year, and my brother is leaving, as his three years are up. So we need one new man, at least. I have written of this rather fully to Dr. Barton, and he tells me that he has shared parts of my letter with the Trustees.

The need for additions to our buildings is so pressing that it seems as if it <u>must</u> be met in some way. I have outlined in my report what our plan is; it remains now to get the money. In the case of the Silk factory no government permit would be needed. In the case of the Laboratory building, as of the Gymnasium, application has been made for the permit, and it is hoped that by spring it will be forthcoming.

I should mention to you one thing that has been in the minds of some here, though on thoroughly thinking it over I have come to the conclusion that it should be rejected. It has been suggested, and by some strongly urged, that the College be transferred to Mezireh, leaving the preparatory schools here. The reason for this is that at best we shall always be cramped for space here; the population of the city is gradually dwindling while that of Mezireh is rapidly growing, so that without doubt in a few years Mezireh will be the center of population as it now is of business and of government: our relationship with the Germans is also a consideration which has been pressed. There are some points in the plan which very strongly attract me. And I have given it a very great deal of careful thought. But in the end it has seemed to me that two items are decisive against it. One is that, with the endowment at present at our disposal, we could not properly keep up two institutions, one here and one at Mezireh, and I think we ought to keep up the institution here in order to provide for the younger children in the city. If we divide, we cannot, with our

present force, keep up the tone of the lower schools, and they comprise nearly three fourths of our pupils. And second, I very much dread for our pupils the influence of a (relatively) cosmopolitan city such as Mezireh will surely be ten years from now. It may be that we might have a larger and more popular institution in Mezireh, but I am inclined to think that it will maintain its character better here. If someone would give us seventy thousand dollars, of which we could spend twenty thousand on an entire new plant in Mezireh, and the other fifty be added to our endowment so that we could have a strong man at the head of the Preparatory school here, and add one or two American Professors to the faculty of the college, then I should feel that the thing could be made a success in the true sense. But to move down piecemeal does not appeal to me as practicable or wise. I mention this to you, not as a probability, but because it has been urged on us and has been thought of. I shall bring it up before our next meeting of the Managers, with the expectation that it will then be laid to rest. Of course the matter must be definitely and finally settled before we make any further addition to our plant here.

I have already made this letter too long, and must close, but not without adding a word in reply to your letter of Dec. 13, which has come since I began this letter this afternoon. I have at last got into very pleasant correspondence with Mr. Jamgochian, and shall not lose touch with him again. I shall print some parts of my annual report, and will send him a copy. Also to Mr. Pashgian and the Pushman Bros., with whom I am in correspondence. The Gymnasium must wait for regular permit, and that will not be out very soon, I fear, as business goes of late.

I am very sorry indeed to hear that you are suffering from such severe rheumatism. You have spoken several times apologetically of your correspondence being delayed by your ill health. I am sure if you knew how cordially we appreciate the work that you are doing and have done, and your generosity in holding on to the work after it has become such a burden to you, you would not feel troubled by any such delays on your part, especially when you see how long I sometimes delay my end of the correspondence.

With most cordial regards and best wishes for the New Year,

Yours very sincerely,

Henry H. Riggs.

Harpoot. Turkey. Jan. 10-1907

To Mr. J. H. Davis.

Rec'd SEP 14 1907

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Euphrates College.

HARPOOT, TURKEY, August 22, 1907.

Reva J.L.Barton, D.D.,
Congregational House,
Boston, Mass;-

My dear Dr. Barton;-

It just occurs to me that according to your plans you will be back at home long before this letter reaches you. So this will be very late for a letter of welcome, though that is the spirit in which it is written. I can well imagine that your minutes are very preciuos, and that long letters will be a burden, so I will just say that I for one, am very glad to get you back. We have followed your journey with our thoughts and prayers, and doubt not that God has answered ours and those of the many more who have prayed for a blessing on the deputation.

Now that you are back at Boston, I feel that I have more of a right to write b College business than when Dr. Strong had added that to his already heavy burdens. I have not time now to write much, however, and you will have plenty else to think about at first.

With cordial regards, in whic h Emma joins, I remain,
Yours very sincerely,

Henry H Riggs.

H. H. Riggs

Harpoot - Turkey - Aug. 22 - 1904.

Ans'd SEP 21 1907

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Euphrates College.

HARPOOT, TURKEY, August 22 1907.

Rev. E. E. Strong, D. D.,
Congregational House,
Boston, Mass;-

My dear Dr. Strong;-

As I am at the Garden, where I cannot get at my letter files, I do not know just exactly when it was that I last wrote to you, but I am sure it is longer ago than it ought to have been. The fact is, I have been taking a vacation, and letters as well as all other things, had the slip while we were off at the Lake. And now there are some items of business that have to be spoken of first.

I received by last week's post, a letter from a man named Russian of Central Falls, R. I., in which he says that he had asked you to write me of his two boys whom he wished to send to College. This letter reminds me that I did receive such a letter from you. Thereby hangs a tale. While we were in camp at the lake, Emma and I had most of our clothes stolen, and among other things lost were all the letters that I had just received by the post. Hence, if I remember aright, my failure to answer that Letter. Well, the man asks about our terms, and incidentally mentions that his boys are seven and ten years old, respectively. I shall write him by this post that we have no facilities for taking in such young children as boarders, and he will have to let them study in their village schools till they are a little older; unless their mother can move to the city and take care of them.

In case of other similar inquiries, I will write a statement of the terms of admission, and if convenient, I would be glad to have it filed where it can be available in case of need in the future.

I have today received from Mr. Peet a note of astonished protest at the immense size of our deficit in his account, somewhat over nine hundred liras! I have already written of that deficit as impending, but apparently the machinery has not got t to running smoothly under the new treasurer. It is quite imperative that that debt be cleared up immediately. I will also write to the Treasurer, Mr. Monroe, but as I understand it, he awaits orders from you before sending remittances.

And may I again rebeat my request, already repeated till it has become perhaps a little tiresome, that the method of remitting money from Boston be somewhat modified. As it at present stands, it is quite impossible to foresee all the drafts on our treasury, so that sending requisitions from here, with the two-months delay it involves, will never insure a clear account in Constantinople. For example, a short time ago one of our large depositors came, without warning, and drew out one hundred pounds. Then a few days later a man came and wanted a draft for three hundred pounds.

So I had to draw that amount more, though I was then in funds. So that withinga few days I had to draw on Mr. Peet four hundred pounds that I could not have foreseen a day in advance.

I have requested that one of two things be done. Either empower the Treasurer in Constantinople to draw on the treasurer in Boston each month to meet our drafts. This seems to me the simplest and most satisfactory plan. Some provision could be made so that the treasurer could meet the drafts on a few days sight, I should thinK. Or, if this plan seems really impracticable, then a sufficient sum should be withdrawn from our investments to make a reserve fund, say of five hundred liras, to meet emergency calls, and then the whole income of the investments, as it comes in, quarterly, or whenever it comes, should be immediately sent on to Mr. Peet. Of these two plans, the first seems better to me, as it would certainly not tie up so much of our money idle. But the important thing is that something be done;- either one of these plans put into operation or they be definitely rejected.

I have today sent a cable to Boston asking "Are teachers coming"? I trust this will be understood as meaning both male and female. We have had no word, either god or bad for a long time, and we are rather in suspense to know what plans are to be made for the school year. I have sent the cable so that we may know what the <u>present</u> prospects are., and act accordingly. It goes without saying that as we have lost two American men from the College staff, besides five of our native teacher, and Three of our young ladies are getting married(Don't ask whose fault it is!), besides seven of the native lady teachers who have left, all this summer;- it goes without saying that it takes some pretty close planning to make our old machine run with its usual regularity, and wi want to know just what we can count on. We have no complaints to make, however, for we know that the force at the rooms has been pretty heavily overburdened, and, though we do not hear any thing, we believe that something is being done to try to get the workers we need.

I am afraid that this letter sounds a good deal like a "kick", from first to last. I do not feel that way, however, and hope it will be read in the spirit in which it is written. It just comes over me that by the time this letter reaches you it is likely that Dr. Barton will be with you again. I hope it is so. It will be, I know a great relief to you, who have had to carry his burdens as well as your own, to some extent.

Emma joins in love to you, and all the family,

Yours most cordially,

Henry H. Riggs

Harper's Aug. 22, 1907

Rec'd NOV 14 1907

1 copy for each mem. of the Board
2 " " Trustees

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Euphrates College.

HARPOOT, TURKEY, Oct. 28, 1907.

To the Board of Trustees of Euphrates College;-

The Board of Managers and the Faculty wish to bring to your attention the question of granting to our graduates the degree of Bachellor of Arts. The College has not heretofore granted that degree, although many have felt that it ought to be done. The College has long been working toward a higher standard of scholarship, and much progress has been made, so that it seems to most of those on the ground that the time has come when the degree may properly be conferred on at least some of our graduates.

The Faculty has proposed, and the Board of Managers approved, the following suggestion."That the degree of B.A. be conferred on such of the graduates of Euphrates College hereafter as shall maintain, during their entire College course, an average scholarship of 85 percent or more, and shall during their Junior and Senior years present three satisfactory theses in three different languages, on subjects of original study in the three branches of 1.Natural Science, 2. History or Philosophy, and 3. Literature." We would respectfully request that the Trustees take the matter into consideration, and, if they see fit, authorize the Faculty to grant the Bachellor's degree, either under the above conditions, or on such conditions as you may impose. It should have been stated above that this plan applies only to the Male Department.

I might add that logically, if the first degree is granted by this College it seems as thought the Master's degree should also be provided for. But on discussing the matter here, we felt that as we did not know what attitude the Trustees would take on the whole matter, we would leave the question of a second degree for the present, but if the Trustees wish to make provision for it, we stand ready to carry out their wish.

Perhaps a few words on the pros and cons may not be out of place. This College does not stand on the same plane with American Colleges in the matter of scholarly work, or of entrance requirements. But in thoroughnes along some lines, particularly in language study, it would rank well. It is not, on the whole, of quite equal rank with Robert College at Constantinople, or with the Syrian Protestant College at Beirut. Perhaps for these reasons, the College has heretofore given no degrees.

On the other hand, Euphrates College stands well up among the American Colleges in the Interior of Turkey. Its requirements and standards, are,,in fact, in many ways higher than those of some of the other Colleges that already give the degree. But comparisons will perhaps not prove much. This College gives the education which, fo this land, stands fully as high as a standard college education does in America or En-

Harpoot, Aug 1922 letter

gland It meets the needs of this country, fully prepares young men for the professional schools of the land, and in every way fulfils the function of a college education. It is probably fully as high a course as that for which a degree was first granted in other lands. Finally, it is our suggestion that the degree be given only to those who complete the course with exceptional ability and success, leaving it to some future time to make our requirements for all graduates so high that all shall receive the honor.

Respectfully submitted, onbehalf of the Faculty and the Board of Managers,

Yours very truly,

Henry H. Riggs.

Harpoot-Turkey Oct. 23-1907.

Trustees Euphrates College

College

Deposit Goods.

Rec'd NOV 14 1907

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Euphrates College.

HARPOOT, TURKEY, Oct. 24, 1907.

ev. James L. Barton, D.D.,
Congregational House,
Boston, Mass;-

y dear Dr. Barton;-

It was good to have a letter from you again, and to feel that you are again t the wheel. This does not imply any complaint about the way we have fared lately, or those who have been overseeing affairs have been very good to us; but I am mightily lad that you are back again.

As for these past few months, if there is anything to complain of, I think t would be largely that I have not done as much as I ought to have in the way of correspondence, so that the friends in Boston have not really known what was what. Add to his the fact that some letters seem to have been lost, and the result has been some onfusion. The fact is that I am a long way behind the game. I have been absolutely nable to keep work up to where it ought to be. I am now spending every spare minute in rying to get my annual account and report in shape so as to send them to you. The books losed with the end of June, and I began at once to get things together. But here it is early November, and the few hours' work is not done yet. It is simply impossible or me to keep in hand what ought to be done. I have learned a rather bitter lesson in he past two years of the limits of my strength, and so I ran off for a two weeks' acation last summer, even with work piling up, undone. Of course you understand why here is so much to do. We have started out to do more than can be done with the few ands we have left. My brother and Mr. French, the heads of our Gurtaran and Mangaran, y office assistant, and ~~two~~ three others of our main stays on the teaching force, have eft. Their places have had to be filled with such material as could be picked up . We ave not known, all along , what to hope for from America. At last we telegraphed to Bos on, and got the reply, "Unlikely, letters follow". But thus far the letters have failed o materialize, so we do not know what degree of unlikelihood is to be accepted. know we ought to have faith and do the best we can, and that is what I try to do; but bout once in so often I have a fit of desperation. On top of it all the Station have imply insisted that I should teach Theology in the Seminary, very generously taking n equivalent of my College work off my hands, but leaving me so much farther from doing hat I ought to do there.

Well, so much for my little whine. Now, (as the Parson says) having brushed aside the preliminaries, we will come down to business. In the matter of money, there seems to be some misunderstanding about the relation of the various treasuries. Hitherto Mr. Davis has always responded to calls for money, and never even suggested that

hi sremittances were limited by the coming due of interest on the endowment. In fact he said some time ago that the economies of earlier days had resulted in an accumulation which was available now that the expenditures were necessarily larger. We have tried to limit expenses as much as possible without serious results, but if we are to limit them strictly to the actual income, we shall have to adopt a radically different policy here, and for this year, as we have begun it, that is impossible.

But even if we were to do so, the Treasury in Boston is still very far behind in its account. I have not got everything straight yet, but as I am able to glance at the books hastily, the remittances of the year 1906.7 amounted to £t.2400. But of this 1100 was from the Rockefeller fund, 425 from Miss Wheeler, 200 was for tutors' salaries and traveling exp., and something like 250 for balance of former account, various scholarship funds, Gymnasium funds, etc. This makes nearly two thousand for such outside objects, and leaves only a little over £t400 for the regular income of the College. Add to this the fact that while we have not kept withing $4000 for a long time, ~~and~~ our expenses this year are unusually high in all departments, and you will see that we are in a fix. The net result is that at the end of the fiscal year we were nearly £t1000 in debt to Mr. Peet, and he declines to advance us more money. If I were in his place I sh should have shut down, long ago. He is very patient, but ought not to be asked to lend us so much money without interest. The College is running, but cannot run without some money. Since the first of July we have had to draw more, and the last statement, received yesterday, shows that up to the first of this month we are nearly £t1500 behind with him.

Now it seems to me that there is nothing to do but remit to Mr. Peet the money that he has advanced to us. If it is invested and cannot be withdrawn, that amount must be regularly borrowed from somewhere until our own fwnds are available. In any case he must be reimbursed at once. If we are to cut down our plant to a $4000 basis, it can be done another year, but not this year, and if the fault is mine I will do anything you wish to answer for it; but at present we must have money to pay the teachers and others who are actually in our employ.

The mail is going and I cannot write more. I hope that this letter will produse the result of bringing immediate relief. As soon as I can possibly do it, I will send definite figures,-the above are at best approximate,- and estimates and forecasts for the future.

I have not had time to answer at all your personal note. Thank you very much for it.

Yours very cordially,

Henry H. Riggs

Harpoot-Turkey. Oct. 24-1907.

College

Rec'd DEC 16 1907

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Euphrates College.

HARPOOT, TURKEY, Nov. 21, 1907.

Rev. James L. Barton, D. D.,
Congregational House,
Boston, Mass.

My dear Dr. Barton;-

At last I am able to send you the statement of accounts for the last academic year. This account ought to have gone to you last summer, but perhaps it is not worth wh while taking time to apologise further. I have no time to spare.

I have drawn up the statement ofaccount in such form as to show clearly how we stand. The Treasurer was behind in his remittances to us at the beginning of the year by £t164.39, (My error in omitting to credit Minas Khachoyan's draft made it appear more in my last account.) To this should be added the various scholarship funds, and remittances for Prof. Nahigian, for Miss Wheeler, and for the Industrial fund. Also the salaries and expenses of the American Tutors, which, it was understood would be met by special funds. This makes a total of £t 2052.50 of funds which should have been remitted outside of the regular College income. The Actual remittances were 2261.43, which leaves only a little over two hundred pounds for the regular expenditures of the College. (In my estimate a few weeks ago I included a later remittance of two hundred, which does not come into the year's account)

Several items have come in this year to make the expenditures unusually high. Our salary account is a constantly growing figure. Care of Premises and Repair of buildings have run unusually high. And we have spent more for Library and for Furnishing than would have been the case had we known that our resources were to be cut off so s sharply. The result is that we have run somewhat over one thousand liras for regular expenses. But even with that, if the full amount for special expenditures and the full income had been remitted during the year, we shold get along.

I shall try ~~this~~ next week to make out quite definite estimates of the year which is now nearly half done. I have no time for that this week, nor for a formal report of the College year. But Today I must only add that the situation here is one that is most distressing. Mr. Peet's last account shows us some twelve or thirteen hundred pounds in arrears to the end of October. He has written again and again, and has quite sharply intimated that he will not honor my drafts unless the situation is improved. I am altogether out of cash. Meanwhile, the College is running, and the teachers have a right to be paid their salaries. This is an extremely hard year here, an and if I had the money I should very much like to pay some of the teachers a little in advance, as they are many of them in real distress. Instead of this I have to keep them waiting for what is already actually due them. And I do not know where to turn.

I think that I shall have to sell another draft, even at the risk of its being challenged. I hope that by the time it gets to Constantinople some relief will be at hand. And yet, I had a much stronger hope of that some months ago, and the result was nothing. I feel that the trouble has been largely my own fault in not keeping people in Boston better posted. But The situation has got beyond me now.

Finally, may I ask that, if, in your judgement it is not possible to remit enough to pay our debt in Constantinople, you will correspond with Mr. Peet yourself, and explain to him the situation. And meanwhile make some provision so that our teachers may get their pay.

Yours very sincerely
Henry H. Riggs.

Dear Dr. Barton:

Please excuse this miserable letter. It has had to be written in a very short time, and I am confined to my room with a cold, which does not help to clarify my brains.

Very sincerely
H. H. R.

Harpoot-Turkey. Nov. 21-1907.

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Rec'd DEC 21 1907

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Euphrates College.

HARPOOT, TURKEY, Nov. 27, 1907.

Rev. James L. Barton, D.D.,
Congregational House,
Boston, Mass;-

My dear Dr. Barton;-

As promised last week, I wish to give you this week a more definite statement of the financial situation for this year.

Since June, the expenditures have been practically normal in all but two items. These two are the Library account, and the Building account. In the first, the charges for books ordered last year have come in, amounting to £t 75:77. I have in my pigeon holes another order from our Library Committee, which in ordinary conditions should go in; but I have held it up, and shall order no more books till there is some improvement in the situation, financially. But the charges already in will make that item, with the regular expenses of the year, a little more than usual.

The second item, of the building account, is a more serious one. There have been three rather heavy items of expense this year, and a good deal of regular repairing besides. One item has been a remodelling of part of the dormitory accomodations, demanded for sanitary reasons. The second was the modification of the kitchen arrangements, building an addition to contain the fireplaces, which was imperatively acllled for by the demands of our enlarged number of boarders. The third was the purchase and remodelling of a house near the silk factory, which was unexpectedly thrown on the market, and was imperatively needed for our younger boys.

The first two items could have waited another year, at a good deal of sacrifice, if we had known that we should be in such straits. The last one was something which was "now or never", and it was, in the opinion of all the members of the Board of Managers, quite important that is should be ours. It was the house of Kevork Agha Mashjian, next to the Silk Factory on the West, and if ever the College is to extend in that direction, it was quite important that that house should not fall into other hands at this juncture So it was decided to buy the house, with the ruins and the land immediately in front of it and behind it. If there had been opportunity we should have consulted with the Trustees, but it was an opportunity that would not wait, so we bought. If the same situation were to arise again, I think I should consider it of sufficient importance to justify the outlay, even knowing as I do the serious situation in which we are. We also decided to rebuild the ruined front part of the house, so as to make it available for the younger boarding boys, who were last year in rented quarters. This was really necessary, as the boys could not be accomodated properly anywhere else. But it might have been managed

f we had realized that such strict economy was needed. These three items, together with he regular repairs of the summer vacation, have involved an expenditure to date of t290:14. Of this 170 liras would approximately cover the cost of the new building ith its site, and the balance is for the various other repairs and improvements. here need be no further expenditures on this account, except the small items that are ssential for the daily wear and tear, so that the whole account can be kept within t300 for the year.

For the rest of our expenditures, there need be no extra expense this year, and e shall try to keep the expenditures as low as is at all possible . I inclose a statement of the probable charges for the year, to June 30, 1908. As you see, the sum is ore than £t1000, but as I said in a former letter, that cannot be helped this year. nd the remittances must be sent to meet these calls, or the College will have to acknowledge itself bankrupt, and go out of business. The total of remittances needed for he year is thus about £t1650. Of this 1300 ought to be remitted at once, and the alance in March, April, and May.

As to the future, I have not the time this week to write as fully and thoughtfully as I ought. I feel that it is a physical possibility to cut down expenses to a figure of £t 1000. But the more I think of it the more I feel that this would be most disastrous to the College. If we cannot raise the rate of paying our teachers this year, we shall lose the best of them, for they are running into debt this year, and cannot live on their incomes. The College is, it seems to me in a critical position, and I feel that if more money cannot be raised just at this time, it is better to eat up a part of our endowment, and go on doing so for a few years, till the time comes whe we can raise the needed addition. But of this I want to write more in detail, to show why I think so, and for that I have no time this week.

With sincere regards,

Yours Cordially,

Henry H Riggs

H. E. Riggs
Harpoon-Lucky Tom-17 gun

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College

Rec'd DEC 30 1907

Euphrates College.

HARPOOT, TURKEY, Dec. 8, 1907.

Rev. J. L. Barton, D. D.,
Congregational House,
Boston, Mass.

My dear Dr. Barton:-

I have received notice from Mr. Peet taat after Jan. 1st, 1908, the system of drafts on the treasurer by which we have heretofore drawn money will be discontinued. There will therefore be no advantage in having remittances sent through him, and there will be some saving in exchange if we avoid the extra transfer there. Will you therefore kindly see that all remittancesfor current expenses be sent directly to me, by London Draft. Possibly it would be worth while to find out at what rate the American Express Co. would forward our money. Sterling drafts realize here 109 piasters gold per pound sterling. If the American Express Co. can give better rates than the two transfers now make, I will try and arrange with their agent here.

I have written to Mr. Peet, asking him to forward to you a statement of our indebtedness to him at the close of this month, and to have it settled as you are able. Yours of Nov. 2 is just received. I think I have explained with sufficient fulness the reason for the "overdraft." I shall await your further letters commenting on that and on our future. The fact that, though our salary account is now nearly four hundred liras greater than it was four years ago(inclusive of Prof. Margo's but exclusive of American teacher's salaries.) the salaries now paid are too small to hold our teaching force together, is enough in itself to account for the change. Our salaries are on an average only about 60% of those at Marsovan, and living expenses are higher here.

Hereafter we shall be absolutely dependent on remittances from Boston, and it is of course essential that they be regularly sent. It is essential that all the income that we are to receive be sent promptly, each month. And that all outside funds, such as Miss Wheeler's remittances, and all scholarship and prize funds, be remitted at once, the Scholarship funds semiannually <u>in advance</u>

Regarding how much money is needed, I wanted to write much more fully this week, but it is impossible. I wish very much indeed that I could havean hour's talk with the Trustees. I think that I could very soon convince them that whatever else is done, the growth of the College must not be checked at this critical period. It is my opinion that if we are not able to increase our salary appropriations for next year by something like 100 liras, we shall lose some of our most valued teachers, as they simply cannot live on the salaries they now have, and more lucrative positions are constantly calling them. No time for more now.

Yours very truly.

Henry H. Riggs.

Harpoot-Turkey. Dec. 6-1907.

Call

Rec'd JAN 4 1908

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Answ

Euphrates College.

HARPOOT, TURKEY, Dec. 12, 1907.

Rev. J. L. Barton, D. D.,
Congregational House,
Boston, Mass.

My dear Dr. Barton;-

I have written you a good many letters of late, but in such haste that I fear they have been more voluminous than illuminating. I will try today to pick up some of the loose ends that I see have been left in former letters.

First, in regard to the evident misunderstanding of the amount of funds available for current expenses. I am very sorry indeed if I have misunderstood instructions and overrun our resources. I do not know now just what I can do to atone for it; but if it is suffering that atones, I am just now suffering the intolerable chagrin of being faced on the one side by Mr. Peet who refuses to honor my drafts, (notice has just reached me from him that he has dishonored two,) and on the other by teachers, and other employees who, especially in this very expensive year, have the right to expect the College to meet its obligations promptly. I do not know that this makes matters any better in any way, but certainly as a chastisement of my soul it is magnificent.

From what you have written to me and to Mr. Peet, it is evident that I have overstepped my rights, so that I need not try to prove that I have not. I will simply repeat that it was not at all intentional, but that I really supposed that we were to draw money as in the judgemnet of our Board of Managers it was really needed, and that the various reserve funds, outside of the regular endowment, which Mr. Davis had reported to us were available for such uses. In fact, ever since the plan of calling American tutors was definitely adopted, I hadaccepted it as a foregone conclusion that the endowment must be increased, and that the matter when that must be would depend on when we got to the bottom of our reserve funds. I did not think very definitely on the matter, and therein, I think, lay the main fault. Furthermore, in 1905, and the first half of 1906 the expenses had already exceeded the limit of £t1000, but no halt was called. Possibly so much of explanation will be allowed, to explain how I came to go so far wrong.

With regard to future expenditures, and the possibility of keeping expenses within 1000 liras;- Salaries of Prof. Margot and Myself are fixed quantities. Care of Premises is also an item that cannot be reduced much. In fact, the expenses of that item are growing, as wages are getting higher. The item of repairs and improvements is a more flexible one, and can be materially reduced, the penalty being rather serious deterioration and untidiness. Library and Apparatus, are items that can be cut down

if absolutely necessary, to bare cost of running, with no improvement, which would mean perhaps ten or fifteen pounds. Expenses for furnishings cannot be much reduced, as that item is largely one of wear and tear, and does not leave much descretion. Exchange is an item which cannot be predicted nor controlled. Miscellaneous expenses are always an uncertain quantity, but not one that can be very materially reduced. Finally, teacher's salaries are both the largest, and the most insistently grouing item of our expense. Of this more must be said.

In the first place, as you well know, it is an item that has steadily grown, in the past ten years. This is as it should be, and as it inevitably must be, as young teachers are growing up in the service. The only alternative to a growing salary account is the continuous employment of inferior teachers and their discharge, (practically,) as fast as they becaome efficient. It is evident that the College has been running dangerously near to that policy of late years. I could name half a dozen really valuable teachers whom we have lost recently, who, I thing, we would have kept if it had been our policy to pay salaries more nearly equal to other schools. And what is core to the point just now, I can name four others, who are really men whom we need, who are now in real financial distress, and who could command higher salaries elsewhere, and who, if we do not make a change this coming year, are in my opinion very likely to leave us. If it was the men who could bereplaced whom we lose, it would not matter so much, but the loss of the men who can get better places elsewhere is the loss that hurts us.

The two Colleges that are similarly located are Marsovan and Aintab. I do not know the scale of salaries exactly, at Aintab. I know it is higher than ours. At Marsovan the professors receive 67% more than ours, and a new graduate receives 80% more. It is hard to explain to our teachers the reason for this difference. If cost of living were the basis, salaries should be higher here than in Marsovan, as living is considerably higher. One of our Professors said to me the other day, If we are not worth the same salaries that are given elsewhere, then it means that we ought to step aside and let the College get men who are worth that. Add to that the fact that the cost of living here is, at a conservative estimate, 40% higher this year than it was last year, and I think you will see why I am appalled at the idea of cutting down our expenses.

To summarize. The other regular expenses of the College might conceivably be cut down to something like £t 500 for the year 1908-9. The salary account cannot be cut down without consequences that I am not willing to contemplate. If the present policy is to continue, salaries would normally amount to £t 1150 for that year. We cannot count on much more than £t800 tuition receipts next year, though it may be more. What are we to do? To hold a self-respecting position, and have a right to ask our teachers to stay, we ought to add at least 150 liras to our salary estimates, and still be far enough behind other Colleges.

I wish to add one other matter which is one of serious import. I said we could not count on large receipts for tuition. The reason for this statement is, of course,

the emigration to America, which is a movement of serious and growing importance. Some friends predict a very serious diminution of our work on this account. Some go so far as to say that the College ought not to plan very largely for the present, till the outcome is evident. I feel that there is a dangerous attractiveness in that thought because the College has, perhaps, more influence than any other institution in deciding what that outcome shall be. If at this time the College takes a position that looks like retreat, the result would resemble a panic in all circles touched by the College, and those include a pretty large number. If, on the other hand, the College takes an attitude of aggressive courage, its influence will be immense toward checking the drain of Armenians from this country. Perhaps I overestimate the influence of the College. But from what I know of the people I think I have not overstated it.

I do not feel myself very sure that we shall win in the end. If it is the settled policy of an intelligent government to depopulate this region of its Christian inhabitants and replace them with Moslems, the attitude of the College cannot have much effect on the ultimate result. It is not evident that that is their intention, and not even fairly probable. But even if it should turn out to be the case, and the College must go down in that way, I wish we could do it with a brave front and with colors flying. I think it would be worth the cost.

It remains, now, for me to wait for the decision of the Trustees on this vital question. Shall we be permitted to draw on the reserve funds of the College for a few years, till more endowment can be secured or till it becomes apparent that it is not needed, or must we cut down at once to the limited expenditure allowed by the actual income from the endowment? The decision must determine our plans for next year, and such being the case we should have that decision as soon as may be, for plans have to be made well before the end of the school year.

Yours very sincerely,

Henry H. Riggs.

Harpoot Turkey. Dec. 12-1907.

12 copies
Inside

Collect

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Rec'd JAN 31 1908

Euphrates College.

HARPOOT, TURKEY, Dec. 30, 1907.

Rev. James L. Barton, D. D.
Congregational House,
Boston, Mass.

My dear Dr. Barton;-

Your letter of Nov. 26, telling of the special meeting of the Trustees, was received by the last post. I am very grateful to you for the sympathetic attitude that you have taken in the matter, and for the action of the Trustees in voting £800 from the contingent funds. If my reckoning was right, this would considerably more than close our accounts, including all overdrafts made in the past two or three years.

The other statement that you made, however, has perplexed me more than I can say, and has led me to wonder whether, in some way, some large sum has not miscarried betweenthe Boston Treasury and here. You say that Mr. Davis finds that there is practically no deficiency in the remittances thus far, the apparent difference being due to difference in the fiscal year.

That statement led me to go into the matter most carefully, and to be sure that that item was eliminated, I have gone back two full years, and made out a list of every remittance from Boston since the latter part of 1905. On Feb. 28, 1906, Mr. Davis, in remitting Five hundred Pounds, the first he had sent since the previous July, said that it was "to cover the debtor balance of £t 228 and supply you with substantially £t280 more for the new year's work." I therefore begin with that remittance which expressly closes the former year's account and begins the new one. Beginning with that date the remittances have been as follows.

Remittance of Feb.28, £t 660, less debtor balance of 227.49,		£t322.51
" " Dec. 6, 1906, half of £ 600(Mr. Davis letter of Mch.16)		330.00
" " Jan, 1907,(no notice from Boston)		45.27
" " April 9, 1907, (Letter of Dr. L. E. Strong, same date.)		113.02
" " June 10, " " " Mr. J. W. Davis " "		228.50
" " July 11, " " " Dr.L.E.Strong, stated as £300 !)		219.00
" " Sept. 22, " " " Dr. J. L. Barton, Same date.)		219.00
" " Nov. 2, 1907, " " " " "		164.62
" " Nov. 14, 1907 " " " Nov. 26		137.52
" " Nov. 26, 1907, " " " "		660.00
Total of undesignated remittances for 1906 & 1907,		2639.44
In addition, Minas Khachoyan's draft, Mr. Davis Letter of Mch.16		127.83
and Prof. Tenekejian's deposit, and overdraft on Mrs. Riggs outfit,		25.00
(See my statement of account, July 1, 1906)		2792.27

But of the above sum of £t 2792.27, the total remittances in the past two years, I have been notified of the following sums derived from other sources than the income of the endowment.

Pushmanian Scholarship, two years, $400, and Prizes, $40,	$440	£t 100.00
Pashgian Scholarship, two years		7.72
Hedjinian Scholarship one year and one half,	about	15.00
Pashgian Gymnasium, (Mr. Davis Letter of July 17, 1906, and inclosure)		45.46
Mr. Kazanjian's gift for two years, (Your letter of Nov. 26)	$700	159.09
Interest on Prof. Mahigian's investment, Mr.Davis's letters of Oct.12, 1903 and Feb. 28, 1906.) ought to be for the two years, about	£152	34.54
Balance of Industrial fund, se Mr. Davis letter of July 27, 1907, $39, and Balance of Trustee fund, ($150. previously charged)	230.	= 61.11
Remittance of Miss E. C. Wheeler, see Dr. Strongs letter, July 8, 1907.	$288	66.07
Special appropriation of the Board of Trustees, Your Letter, Nov.26		660.00
Total of income reported outside the regular College endowment		£t1148.99

If these sums have all actually been received, it leaves only about £t1643 as the drafts on the regular income for the past two full years. In addition to the above sums, there have been other sums that I had supposed were available for some purposes, but of which I have no definite notice, so I have not included them. Such, for example, as the Tutors' salary fund,* Col. Hopkins gift of $175, and my Brother's gift of £t40. If these should be included, it would further reduce the above balance to £t 1416. But of this I do not feel at all sure. However that may be, the larger sum is a good deal short of what I had supposed the income of the College was. Twice in recent letters you have stated that the income of the College is about £4600. That would make, for two years, nearly £t 2100, which is 450 pounds more than the larger sum deduced from the above reckoning.

I am at a loss to explain this discrepancy. Possibly some of the above sums which I have named as coming from outside have been counted in your estimate of £4600. Possibly some of them, for some reason, have not been received in full. But even with these, it does not seem possible that so large a difference can be accounted for. I leave the matter with you, and I trust that the trouble can be found. For your convenience in looking the matter up, I will add a list of other remittances of special sums, that have come during these two years, but have nothing to do with College receipts or expenditures. The dates are the months during which the remittances were received in Constantinople.

Dec, 1905, £t 57.60, Feb., 1906, 54.18, May, 1906, 103.35, June, 1906, 45.86 Aug. 1906, 74.46: October, 1906, 66.80: April, 1907, 56.79 and 79.66. All of these were simply transmitted for Miss E. C. Wheeler, for Miss M. L. Daniels. Also the following sums from the Rockefeller industrial fund. July, 1906, £t.655.50: Dec.1906, £30.00 and April, 1907, 32.50 These have nothing to do with College funds.

(So much for the single question of remittances in the past, I will now turn to)

I find that the post must go before I can finish the full statement that I am preparing in accordance with your request. So I send this. The rest will follow next week.

Yours sincerely H.H. Riggs

* I had supposed that my brothers expenses were to be met in some such way. See your letter of Aug 1. 1905

Harpoot Turkey Dec. 30-1907.

1906-7 acct

Rec'd FEB 3 1908

Euphrates College.

HARPOOT, TURKEY, Jan. 4, 1908.

Rev. James L. Barton, D. D.
Congregational House,
Boston, Mass.

My dear Dr. Barton;-

Two facts lead me to write you today most earnestly and urgently. The first is that today, for the first time since I came here, I have been obliged to suspend payment of the rightful debts of the College, because of the lack of either funds or credit to meet them. Several of the Teachers have not yet received their salaries for December, and I have been obliged to refuse them because I have no money. Bills due for running expenses are also unpaid. The only light in sight is the receipts for Tuition, and those will come due only after the 21st.

The other fact is that three letters from Mr. Peet this week call attention again to the fact that funds have not come in sufficient quantity to close our account, and hence he has refused to credit Mr.Knapp with the amount of my drafts drawn since Sept. 26, amounting to £t 672.31. As you know, it has generally been customary for the College treasury to supply itself with cash by drawing on the Station treasurer, giving him a draft on Mr. Peet.Neither Mr. Knapp nor I had any intimation that any of these drafts had been rejected till after the last one had been drawn and sent in, some three weeks ago. As I cannot possibly refund those drafts, in my present bankrupt condition, and as Mr. Peet threatens to refuse payment of Mr. Knapp's drafts if he does not furnish other credits than my drafts, the situation here is absolutely unbearable.

The present situation cannot contirue. I therefor write to make a definite request. I request that at all costs Mr. Peet's account be closed at once. I have not his December account yet, and do not know how our balance is with him. But It must be paid, together with the above sum for drafts that he has refused. If nothing else can be done, the money must be borrowed, and my request is that you will go to any expense necessary to relieve us from the present embarrassment. If, in the judgement of the Trustees, I am personally responsible for the situation, I agree to pay in full the cost of such a loan, untill such time as the Trustees see fit. As I have no funds of my own from which to pay the principal myself, the offer to pay the interest is

all that I can do. Please understand that I make this request with the greatest earnestness, with the expectation that it will be complied with, at my expense if not on other conditions. And that at once.

At the same time I wish to say, in honesty and fairness to myself, that I do not ~~m~~ myself feel that I have done anything contrary to the directions given me, in this whole affair. That, however, is a matter for the Trustees to pass upon, and I will accept their decision.

I am sending a copy of this letter to Mr. Peet, in the hope that he will see his way, on the basis of this, not to take action on our Station accounts that will result in serious disaster here. I shall write you by the regular mail of this week; This goes by way of Trebizond.

Yours very truly,

Henry H. Riggs.

H. H. Riggs

Harpoot Turkey. Jan. 4-1908.

6 copies

Rec'd FEB 7 1908

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Euphrates College.

HARPOOT, TURKEY, Jan. 9, 1908.

Rev. J. L. Barton, D. D.,
Congregational house,
Boston, Mass.

My dear Dr. Barton;-

Replying further to your letter of Nov. 28, I enclose herewith a statement of the receipts and expenditures of the half year. I had already sent you the substance of a part of it, but I am anxious that the Trustees have as fully as may be a clear understanding of where we stand. I have not been able, however, to take the time to make out a complete ledger balance, so that some of the items are only approximate. I have done this work under great pressure and with many interruptions, of course, and I am afraid there may be some things that will not be entirely clear. But it is the best that I can do, at present.

Under the heading of the regular expenditures, and of the special expenditures that are authorized, little need be added to what I have already written you. I have brought the figures down to the end of December. As I told you, the items of Building and repairs, of Library and of Incidentals, need not be seriously increased to include the whole year. Some other accounts will be smaller for the second half of the year. Of that I wrote before, and probably any guess that I can make now will not be nearer than what I made a month ago, as to the probable needs for the coming year.

You will notice that in the apportionment of the Building account, I have raised the item for repair of the new house from 170 to 190. This partly due to some bills for hardware, glass, etc. that came in after I wrote, and partly to a more careful examination of the accounts. I might say that the building as in now stands is a property worth, in ordinary times, at least £t 300.

The last items on the debit statement are the debtor balance which appears on Mr. Peet's books June 30, and is practically the same in amount as the debtor balance which, according to my accounts, stood against the Treasurer in Boston at the same date. To this is added the drafts which were then outstanding, as they entered into the former account here, but were not charged in ~~the~~ Mr. Peet's accounts till after the account for the year closed. This is more than covered by the cash then in hand.

And the debtor balances, listed separately on another page, require fuller explanation. The boarding department debit. This item of debit requires a historical statement. Ever since 1901 the Boarding Department has shown a constantly growing debt at the end of each year. Last year Mr. Davis suggested that it would be better

to charge in the excess each year as a part of the regular expenditures, so as to avoid a growing debt. The matter was brought before the Board of Managers, and it was decided to raise the price of board twenty percent, to preventthe increase of the deficit, and to credit against the old debt the excess of payments for Students incidentals over actual cost for fuel, lights, etc., each year. That excesshad previously been credited to the Repairs account, as rent. I accordingly transferred the debt, £t 174.51, from the pages of the Boarding Department, and charged it against the Deposit account, till it should gradually be paid off as indicated above The purpose of this transfer was to leave the Boarding account clean, with the intent that each year's receipts hereafter should completely cover the year's expenditures. The 77 liras advanced for wood, butter, meat, wheat, etc, is to be made good during the second term. It amounts to about one tenth of the year's expenses.

The Book Department. There has been a difference of opinion as to how much credit this enterprize was to be allowed. I had understood when I began work that about fifty liras was allowed for it. Prof. Tenekejian was of the opinion that it was to be one-hundred. I find no definite authority on the subject. Prof. Tenekejian has entire charg of it, and orders the books through Mr. Peet, to sell them here. The profits of the enterprise go to help poor boys in school. For a number of years all the earnings of the shop did not go to that purpose, but accumulated here, and two years ago Prof.T. began to remit it to America, to be invested in a permanent scholarship fund. This resulted in his paying in here less than the usual amount from his receipts, with the result that last June his account stood 135 liras. He has now reduced it to somewhat less than 100, and I shall insist on his still further reducing it.

The Loaning Library. This account used to be charged in annually under miscellaneous expenses, but it seemed to me that as it was something of a commercial enterprise, it should stand on its own feet. It therefore now stands as a separate account, from year to year, with a varying balance. These two accounts differ in this; the first is for buying and selling textbooks and other school requisites, and is run at a profit. the second is for renting, at as nearly as possible the cost price, such books as are too expensive for pupils to buy. This does not aim at anything more than the cost of maintainance.

Delayed collections. This item is so large at this particular time that I thought best to speak of it, rather than let it stand, as has often been done, against the Deposit or some other account. The charges on this account seldom stand more than a few days, or at most weeks, at a time. But as the amount of collecting that I have to do, for the various shops, from the teachers who purchase things through me, and from students for various things, that for the sake of more businesslike method, I have made it all a single, separate account.

Self-help, or Industrial department overdraft. At your suggestion I continued the purchase of lumber and other materials so asto invest practically all of the money

given by Mr. Rockefeller. This supply turns over at the rate of about fifteen to twenty liras a month, or the entire capital in (less than) two years. This summer, however, I did not keep as close watch of the account as I should, and an item entered on the wrong side of my ledger misled me as to how that account stood. That error was not discovered till just the other day, when I tried to balance up the general account, and found that I was much further behind than I had supposed, this account being the reason. I am greatly chagrined at this error, which was due to my carelessness. It is, as it happens, an error which can be readily corrected, as we use up the material that has been needlessly added to our supply. But the embarrassment of using other money for this purpose is at the time serious. I am hopeful of clearing this all off before the end of June. But it may not be practicable, and in the meantime the interest on this excess should be charged to me.

Turning to the credit side of the Statement, little need be said. The remittances are all those that have been reported to me, up to Mr. Peet's letter of Dec. 16th. The balance stated is that of the same date, reported by him. The drafts rejected by him are all that I have issued since September, with the exception of one, of £t 33, which has not been reported. It may have been lost in the mails, or else he rejected it and said nothing. The receipts for tuition are less than they should appear because some 27 liras are still to come in this term. The total receipts are, however, markedly less than last year, and this should be charged to the account of the emigration to America, which has taken pupils as well as teachers.

The method of remitting funds for our use has been a matter that I have rather persistantly harped on, but thus far with no effect. The method in vogue up to this year was for me to notify the treasurer when funds were likely to be needed, and he would remit the amount called for. I have written several times that this method did not seem satisfactory, and suggesting a change of some sort. A year ago I asked if it might not be changed to one of two suggested methods; either to closely follow the needs here by Mr. Peet drawing on the treasurer in Boston; or to follow the maturing of the income in Boston, sending all funds on at once. I suppose other business crowded the question out. Now the old method has broken down of itself, and the second one that I suggested has automatically taken its place; I shall be very well suited with this method, as soon as we can adjust ourselves to it. A new element has introduced itself now, in Mr. Peet's announcement that he will not in future act as banker, as he has in the past. He is willing to take our funds, transfer them to his accounts, and send us his check for the amount. But he will no longer allow us to draw checks on funds deposited with him, as heretofore. As this double transfer will not be of any benefit, I should suggest that drafts be sent directly here, hereafter. This, however, is a rather delicate point with Mr. Peet, and as it makes no serious difference with me, I would suggest that it be settled in consultation with him.

I would call your attention to the fact, however, that the abolition of

drafts between here and Constantinople will cost the College, in interest alone, somewhat more than $80 a year, with, of course, a corresponding gain to Mr. Peet. And at least as much more could be saved if arrangements were made for me to draw checks here, when needed, to be cashed in Boston. It would mean that the money could lie at interest there at least three months longer than would be possible if the money is to be sent out from Boston in advance of the need. At the same time provision could be made so that I can know just what funds there are to draw on, and not overdraw.

I am afraid that I have sinned against all the laws of economy in taking so much space on this financial question. But things look large to me out here which are small in comparison with larger interests. I hope you will excuse my longwindedness. I hope also that this, with all that I have written before, will cover the ground sufficiently.

I am astonished to hear that you had not heard of Mr. French's leaving. It seems to me that some letter must have been lost; but I cannot be sure that the fault was not my own.....In looking over my files I find no statement till my letter to Dr. Strong of August 22, in which I mentioned the fact that we had lost our two American men, besides the lady teachers.

That we need help, I need not urge upon you now. But I would like to remind the Trustees of the imperative need for someone to run the business and industrial side of our establishment. I have felt that perhaps a mistake was made in starting so much work, without adequate help to carry it on. At present I have to carry the treasury and the supervision of the shops, in addition to the work which is properly enough for one man, as president. I feel that it is wrong for me to pretend to carry so much. The result is that none of it is done well. I confess that the industrial work is far more in line with my tastes, and more nearly within my ability than the other. If someone can be found who can take up the oversight of the educational side, I would gladly step aside and devote myself to what I think is no less truly missionary work in these shops. Or, if someone could take over the industries, I would be glad to give my strength to the strictly College duties that now go undone.

Yours very sincerely,

Henry H. Riggs.

rig

A. H. Riggs

Harfoot Surkey Jaw. 9-1908.

Euphrates College.

Personal.

HARPOOT, TURKEY, Jan. 9, 1908.

My dear Dr. Barton;-

I wish to write a personal note of explanation of one or two items. First of my cry from the depths last week. The situation is just this. As our accounts will show you, we are far in arrears with Mr. Peet. For some months he has been politely protesting against so much money being drawn, and as I had been instructed to call on Boston for funds, I did so, but without avail. The reason is clear now, all except the shortage in my accounting of Mr. Davis's remittances, of which I wrote last week.

But finally, about the end of November, Mr. Peet decided to refuse my drafts, and he did so, not only without giving me definite notice, but also retroactively, refusing all drafts as far back as September, (I understand) even taking off some that had been entered in his books. Of course I ceased issuing draftsas soon as I knew that he had taken this position, with the result that I had to go into bankruptsy last week. Some money has come in, on deposit, since, which relieves the immediate situation for me, till the Tuition begins to come in. But the more serious part of it was that the six hundred odd pounds that I had already drawn and spent had been drawn, as usual, through the Station treasurer, and Mr. Peet had notified him that after Jan 1 he would honor no drafts, and send on only the amount of actual credit to his account. This would mean that with six hundred pounds less of credit than he ought to have , Mr. Knapp would also be bankrupt before many weeks, and that was something pretty hard to contemplate. For all the Missionaries, and preachersand teachers paid by the board to be left without money, even for a month or two, would mean a loss of standing and a positive harm that would be a great injustice to them. Hence I wrote as I did.

At that time Ihad not discovered the error in the Self-help account, and did not know how heavily I had transgressed there. It shows how poorly I have kept my eye on my business that such a thing could occur. So I repeat my request of last week, that the cost of covering that part of the debt, and of as much more as the Board think right, should be charged to my personal account, till I can fully repair it. But I hope that without fail the situation will be tided over with Mr. Peet. From his Letters to Mr. Knapp and me, I fear that nothing but hard cash will meet the situation.

I must confess that the past week has been a very dark one for me, personally. I feel that I have done wrong in undertaking what I could not do well. What I have said in my other letter, I say in all earnestness. If no one can be found to releive me of this part of the work, perhaps the right man can be found for the head of the College, and let me relieve him. I know that I am naturally far better fitted for industrial work than for educational. It would be quite in line with my tastes to be engaged

(over)

in Industrial Mission work. And perhaps with one line of work I might succeed. I certainly am not willing to go on "at this poor dying rate".

For the future finances of the College, I feel like the old man who came in to ask for work the other day. He said, I do not want meat, or pilav; I have forgotte whatthose are, all I want is bread,-bread,- bread! If it is going to be a struggle keep the College going, of course all ideas of expansion are forgotten. But of that I wait your answers to former letters. I do not feel that I know enough of the situati to say anything more. But for the future, I want to be sure to know what I can count on, and know it long enough in advance to cut our coataccordingly.

We are in the midst of closing Examinations, and also of the daily Meetings of the Week of Prayer. If there were more time I should try to report to the Trustees more about the condition of the College. But as it is I have taken enough of their an your time.

Yours sincerely,

Henry H. Riggs.

Henry H. Riggs
Harpoot Turkey Jan. 9-1908.

Rec'd FEB 7 1908

Rec'd

Dr. Barton,
Personal.

Rec'd FEB 7 1908

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2/11

Euphrates College.

HARPOOT, TURKEY, Jan. 10, 1908.

Rev. J. L. Barton, D.D.,
Congregational House,
Boston, Mass.

My dear Dr. Barton;-

One item that ought to go before the Trustees was omitted from my letter yesterday. Mr. French arrived here late in the year, and was ill after his arrival, so that he did not begin his work till after the term was well started. His whole period of service was therefore only about eight months. The delay was not his fault, and I was not inclined to deduct much from his salary on that account.

Mr. French, however, thought that his salary ought to be reckoned as only eight twelfths of a year's salary. In order to get home he was obliged to draw somewhat more than his year's salary according to his reckoning, and the whole amount, £t 88.14, was charged in as his salary in the June account. Since then, however, he has returned $58. (£t 13.18), which makes the balance of his account a trifle under 55 pounds, which is about two thirds of a year's salary.

It is for the Trustees to decide whether that is a fair arrangement, or whether the deduction should be made on the basis of the school year of ten months, instead of twelve months. If it were not for the expenses of his journey out, I should urge returning him what he has sent. But as it is, I am not sure. Mr. French was an earnest, faithful, painstaking worker, and a good teacher. His faults were such as made it hard for him, and his own despondency and lack of confidence was the ultimate reason for his leaving. Had he been willing to conquer his difficulties, we should have wished him to remain, and I told him so.

Mr. French's address is added below. He once expressed to me the hope that he could some day repay <u>all</u> that he had received from the College.

Yours very truly,

Henry H. Riggs.

Mr. J. O. French,
110 W. Holly St.,
Bellingham, Wash.

C. W. Riggs

Harpoot Turkey Jan. 10-1908.

Euphrates College.

HARPOOT, TURKEY, Jan. 23, 1908.

Mr. J. W. Davis,
Care of Mr. F. H. Wiggin,
Congregational House,
Boston, Mass,

My dear Mr. Davis;-

I write in the midst of the rush of the opening of the new term, and cannot take time to speak at all of the general financial situation, of which I have written fully to Dr. Barton;- anyway, I should not want to trouble you with the details of what is not now in your care. I write on Prof. Nahigian's behalf, about his investments.

You recollect that in addition to the sums which you invested for him in stocks and bonds, he afterwards sent a sum of $250., which, because of the then high prices of securities, you ~~invested~~ deposited in the bank till a better time for investment. I have no doubt that if the matter is still in your hands, you have already taken advantage of the very low rates to invest this money, as you said you would do. But as I understand, the care of Prof. Nahigian's money has been passed over to someone else. As I donot know who, or how fully the new trustee knows about the matter, may I trouble you to see that the investment is made.

Prof. Nahigian requests that the accrued interest on this deposit, and the dividends on his other investments, which have not been reported out here now for the past two years,- be added to the $250. And he has deposited with me enough money to make the total sum as high as $750. He requests that a good investment be made of his money, and if convenient, the investment may reach as much as $750. He leaves the exact sum indefinite, knowing that it is not easy to get just the sum asked for. He would like the investment made as nearly as ~~possible~~ convenient to that amount.

I hope that this is not going to be too much to ask of the person or persons wi with whom his affairs rest. And I want to thank you for your share in the trouble.

Yours very sincerely,

Henry H. Riggs.

274.00 Prof. N.
84 Inc
358.00

Rec'd FEB 28 1908

Euphrates College.

HARPOOT, TURKEY, Jan. 27, 1908.

Rev. J. L. Barton, D. D.,
Congregational House,
Boston, Mass.

My dear Dr. Barton:-

As I have no word whatever from you about College finances, I can write nothing new about the general situation. There is one item, however, that came to my knowledge yesterday, which is a very serious one indeed. Perhaps it may not look so to an outsider, but to me, in the present situation, it seems desperate. Miss Daniels shows me letters from Miss Wheeler, dated Oct. 16, and Dec. 18, stating that she has paid to Mr. Munroe $338.00 and $354.60, on the two dates respectively, for transmission to Harpoot. That money is of course needed for carrying on her work, and Miss Daniels has a right to have it.

But no notice of such money has come to me, much less the money itself. I cannot pay what I have not, and if that money does not come to hand very soon I do not know what we shall do. The receipts for Tuition just received will carry us for a few weeks, but with such heavy arrears, and receips falling off as they are, it is impossible to live long on what we have. The Orphanage is bankrupt, and I do not know whether we shall be able to get tuition even for the orphans who are still in school. The Medical department is behind, and is just now almost staggered by the German Committee's apparent repudiation of their promised help. That leaves us behind with our collections from them. All around it seems as if circumstances were combining to drive us to distraction.

I think it was a missionary who said to his home church, "I will go down into the pit, but do you hold fast the rope." And I can testify to the blackness which the pit assumes when the rope does not meet expectations. I at the same time feel how hard for those at the other end it is to meet demands which seem unexpected or unreasonable, so please do not feel that I am complaining. I do not mean to lay blame on anyone else, but my soul cannot carry this strain for long without something snapping.

Yours very sincerely,

Henry H. Riggs.

Henry H. Riggs

Harpoot. Turkey. Jan. 31-1908.

Rec'd MAR 14 1908

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Euphrates College.

HARPOOT, TURKEY, Feb. 14, 1908.

Rev. J. L. Barton, D.D.,
Congregational House,
Boston, Mass.

My dear Dr. Barton;-

I started to answer your letter of Jan. 1 and 2 by the last post, but was unable to get very far so I will have to begin over again. And before taking up in detail the matters of which you write, I want to say that I appreciate very keenly the great strain on your sympathy and patience that my action has caused. You must have been much exasperated at the different impressions made by my various letters, and by the apparent differences in my estimates. Your patience and sympathy through it all, has been appreciated, I assure you.

Of course you have, ere this, the explanation of the shortage of my first estimates. I am more chagrined than I can tell you over the wrong impression that that made, and especially that when I later corrected it, I did not realize the difference. The reason for this latter was that my copy of the estimates that I sent you at first was in some way lost, so that when I came to write the letter of Jan. 9, I could not refer to it. Having the two before you, you can readily see where the difference lies. I think it is in only two items of my last account. The temporary debtor balances, and the item of Drafts outstanding July 1st. So long as our system of drafts on Mr. Peet continued, the drafts outstanding between here and Constantinople always gave us an advance of some two hundred to one thousand liras. When that was suddenly cut off, its puts us behind that amount, which in this case was somewhat over $1 800. The real meaning of it is simply that the College is just so much further behind with Mr. Peet than his account at the end of June showed. It was exceedingly careless of me not to call attention to these two items.

I am more sorry than I can tell that this confusion has occurred. I do not know what the possibilities may be in the way of relieving the situation so caused. In looking over the accounts, my estimates seem to be about the minimum, so far as I can now see, so that in addition to what has already been sent, on the basis of the estimates I first sent, we must have the amounts of the two items mentioned above, before the end of the year. The debtor balances, as I have said, will at least in part, be removed before the end of the year, from sources available here. But this is a very bad year for collecting debts, and I cannot be sure how fast it will be possible to collect those amounts. You express satisfaction at our having paid off so large a part of our Deposit account. I feel quite the opposite, and wish I could get some more deposits

in to help us out. You see in former years we have had deposits of five or six hundred pounds available, and the reduction of those means the calling out of more money from Boston. It is all uncertain as yet,, how much may come in or be drawn out on this account. But I hope that this and other accounts of various sorts that do not enter in our annual accounts, may be so improved ere long as to close up the nearly five hundred pounds of debtor balances. But in the meanwhile we will need the other item, of 800 odd pounds of drafts outstanding July 1. As I said, I have not the copy before me, but that seems to be the item omitted.

In addition to the above, we must of course have the money which Miss Wheeler sends for Miss Daniels. So far as I could understand you reckoning, these were included in what has been remitted to Mr. Peet. That of course is as it should be, but it should also be reckoned in the amounts credited to us, and I should be notified of them. For the remittance made in September I have had no notice whatever, and no account was made of it in the amounts mentioned in your last letter.

In this letter you give a statement of the income of the College, of which I am very glad, as it gives us an idea of where we stand. You do not mention the Pushmanian gifts of $220 per year. I hope this does not mean that anything has happened to stop those gifts. I am still paying out that money regularly here. As you will see from my letter of Dec. 30, even including all the scholarship funds, there is a difference of about $1800 between my reckoning of the income and Mr. Davis', for the past two years. I hope that can be cleared up in time.

As to when that money should be sent, , I see that the large amounts come due at the times in the year when money is not needed. The January income, of $1133, if sent at once, would come just after the January receipts for tuition are in, and the similar amount in July would get here just before the September Tuition comes in. The sums for February and August, of $80 each, need not, for the same reason, be sent at once, and may as well be sent with the sums for the succeeding months. Otherwise, if the amounts are to be sent out in the old way, it seems to me wise to send each month. But I would like to call attention again to the advantage that would accrue if I could sell drafts here that would be payable in Boston, at the time when the money is available. There are various advantages, but the main one is that, other things being equal, it would make the money available here two or three months earlier than otherwise. With the schedule before me, I see that it would make far more than that, in reality, as the money is much of it available at just the wrong time. The money is drawing, as I understand, 4 1/4% That rate, on $4500, for an average of three months,- it would really be more,- would amount to nearly fifty dollars a year. This does not include the various other funds that will come, and which will raise the total amount somewhat. This plan would also have the advantage of enabling me to know just when I can count on the money being in hand, without being in doubt because of the many slips and delays that the other method would make possible. Of course in such a case I should be notified at exactly what date the various sums would be actually available in Boston, and I could be held responsible strictly to that schedule.

In case you decide to allow this plan for drawing money, I suppose that the money might be deposited in some bank in Boston, and a check-book sent to me. If it is desired that I should draw on the Treasurer directly, of course some form of draft or check should be provided.

With regard to the motor order, it was not a matter of absolutely necessary expense, and I am quite willing to accept your action, so far as my share in it is concerned, though I was somewhat at a loss to explain to the satisfaction of some of the gentlemen who had subscribed for it why they were obliged to suffer because of the financial status of the College. The matter is one which involves other cases, however, and I am much puzzled to know what to do. For the things that I needed for myself, I am willing to wait till such time as Mr. Peet sees fit to fill orders. But one of our Professors wants a couple of books, and as his order went astray once, and he very much needs the books, I feel that it is necessary to appeal to you. I cannot send checks, for both Mr. Knapp and I are cut off from drawing checks, and if I send to Mr. Peet by any local means, he has taken the position of sequestring all money from or for me, that he can get his hands on and applying it to the debt. I do not say that he is wrong in so doing, but it leaves me in a tight place. I inclose the order herewith. May I ask that in some way provision be made to fill it?

Others are writing to you about the perplexity we are in with reference to our relations to the Germans. It has cast a gloom over the whole circle, and there was gloom enough already. I wish we could write cheering letters from here; it is not fair to burden you with all our troubles. We try to trust for the future; but I must confess that to my mind things all around look exceedingly dark. The rest of the Station are hopeful still about the Germans. I should be, if we had to deal with some few of those here with whom we have had the most to do hitherto. But As there is the whole circle here, and the Committe in Germany to deal with, I myself have no hope whatever of our permanently working together, unless there is some higher force to hold the Committee in Germany to a reasonably consistency of policy. There is such a deep predjudice in the mind of Pastor Lohman, and in the minds of many of the Germans here agains our religious views and character, that, in view of this recent affair, I do not see how it can be more than a question of a few years before they break off all relations with us, and push their work as a rival work, holier than we. But this is not in my line at present, and perhaps events may prove me wrong. Déru da.

Yours very sincerely,

Henry H. Riggs

I hope my former letters have made it sufficiently clear that money will be needed soon. Tuition receipts may possibly last two months longer. for other income we are not sure of anything.

Harpoot Turkey Feb. 14 1908.

Copy for Trustees

Rec'd APR 10 1908

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Mar. 13-1908

Dear Dr Barton:

It is with great gratitude to God that I write to tell you that a little one has come to our home, and that her mother, though she has been very low, is now doing very well, and seems on the road to early recovery.

The new arrival is Annie Barnum Riggs. I know how you all rejoice with us.

Yours very sincerely

Henry H Riggs.

Harfoot.
March 13

Henry H. Riggs

Harpoot-Turkey. Mar. 13-190

APR 10 1908

Euphrates College
Harpoot Turkey
Mch 13, 1908

14

Rev. J. T. Burton, D.D.
Congregational House,
Boston, Mass.

My dear Dr. Burton:

The Firman for the building of the Protestant church at West Harpoot has been secured, and work on the building has begun. The church treasurer has intimated that he would like to receive at once the 70 liras promised by the college in payment for the site and ruins of the old church.

Dr. Gates' note for £T 300 was payable on demand.

£T 30 has been paid, and the balance of £T 270 is properly due now. I have told them that as I have not the cash now, I will write to ask you to send it. I do not know whether any provision has ever been made for the payment of this debt. Of course it must be met forthwith.

I have been with Mrs. Riggs day and night during her illness, and have not been able to finish the report for which you asked, blanks for which came late week. I will send it next week.

With sincere regards.

Yours very truly

Henry H. Riggs.

Henry H. Riggs

Harpoot-Turkey- Mar. 13-1908.

ec'd APR 30 1908

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Euphrates College.

HARPOOT, TURKEY, April 2, 1908

Rev. James L. Barton, D.D.,
Congregational House,
Boston, Mass.

My dear Dr. Barton;-

Your letter of Feb. 29, reporting the meeting of the Trustees of the College was received by the last post. Thank you very much for writing as fully as you did, and for all that you have done for us. You report cabling Mr. Peet four hundred pounds, and expressed the hope that that might lead him to deal a little more liberally with the College. Not he. He has not even notified me of the receipt of such a cable. He has taken the position for the past four months that he would not transmit to me a cent till the College has paid the uttermost farthing. And since Dec. 5, when I drew my last draft on him, I have not got from him a single cent.

We have been cared for, however, very providentially, and I trust that the same combination of favoring circumstances may carry us on till some help arrives. Some large deposits have been placed with me, and some rather large bills have been paid, so that although no help has come from outside, I have been able to pay my bills thus far, and am a little ashamed of the feeling of desperate hopelessness which I felt when no help was in sight. As I wrote you last week, the Church in this quarter are demanding the £1270 promised them by Dr. Gates, which was payable on demand. I have told them that I cannot pay it till it is sent from Boston; I do not know what provision may have been made or can be made for that payment.

What you report of the action of the Trustees in trying to raise more funds for current expensesis most encouraging, and I want to express my gratitude to you and to the Trustees. The more I see the developement of things here, the more I feel that such an addition is most essential. And on the other hand, I appreciate what a difficult thing the Trustees are undertaking at this time of financial strain. I shall earnestly pray for their success. Our salary budget for the coming year will be made out during next month. In case there is sufficient success to warrant us in at all enlarging our salary accounts, I wish you would cable us,(direct), for even if help came later, it might be too late, as our teachers will form their plans on the basis of the decisions of the May meeting of the Managers. If we get no news we shall make our estimates on the basis of strictly limiting expenditure to the receipts, which include, as I understand it, only $4250 from Boston. I wish I knew difinitely how much of our special scholarship funds are included in that sum.

I was very sorry indeed that my letter of Dec30 should have given you the

impression that we here distrusted that some of the College income was being withheld. With the letter before me I confess that it does not seem as if there was ground for such an impression. I certainly did not have any such suspicion. I simply tried to lay before you the facts, and it did seem to me that the facts were of serious enoug significance to command attention. A discrepancy of $1450 between what we expected and what the Treasurer expected to send seemed too large an item to be accounted for by any differences in book-keeping. Of course I realize that that amount has been more than made up to us by the extra appropriations that the Trustees have recently made. So that if you at that end are content to pass over the item, I have nothing to complain of.

I have talked with Prof. Mahigian about the matter of his investment, and he is very grateful for the care and caution with which the matter has been treated. He says that in view of the judgement you expressed, he is perfectly content to have the money now in Boston put in the savings bank as you recommend. He has not said anything about adding to it at present, but if he wishes to do so I will send the money later.

You write of the feeling in the Board of Trustees against having a debt. I am ~~cer~~ sure that I agree heartily with that feeling, and shall continue as I have during the past five months, to hold expenditures down to the lowest possible figure. And shall, moreover, make that figure come inside of actual receipts, though that may mean serious results for the future of the College. Moreover, I think that the Trustees may rest assured that there will be no such overdraft on College funds as there has been in the past, for the simple reason that the position taken by Mr. Peet and by you has made such overdraft a physical impossibility. We might all starve or go out of business, but we could not get money that does not exist. The only cause for anxiety along that line is the deposits that have been made with me here. Such deposits are theoretically loans to the College, but practically they are given as a convenience to the depositor. And in every case I tell the depositor that the money is to be used, and in case of any larg sum I require previous notice in order to be ready to pay. This has formerly been done on the ground that money could be drawn from Boston at any time. Now that that is not the case, I shall undertake to arrange, as soon as possible, to accumulate a fund here to cover the entire amount of such deposits. That fund will be absolutely necessary to enable us to meet any demands within reasonable time.

The financial outlook is not bright, but there is no use worrying over it. We now know our limitations, and as soon as we can get out of the burden of former expenditures we will be able to keep level. We have now paid off all the debt to Mr. Peet, and all that comes from Boston hereafter will be available here. I hope that attention has been paid to my remark that the Pushmanian, Pashgian, Hedjinian and any other scholarships must be sent out at least semiannually in advance. If this cannot be done, for any reason, we must know it, and suspend the beneficiaries of these scholarships. Sailing as close to the wind as we ~~xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx~~ now are, we cannot do as we have heretofore, pay these moneys and charge them in at the end of the year. The money itself must be actually in hand at the time when it is needed.

As to methods of remitting money; The station had last week an indignant communication from Mr. Peet, protesting against Mr. Knapp's action in suggesting that Orphanage funds be sent direct to Harpoot. Mr. Peet felt that such a suggestion was a personal affront; and from something that he has previously said, I fear he may look at College finances in the same light. If you are going to send money directly to me, I wish you might give Mr. Peet such explanation as will make it right with him. The purpose of any change is, of course, to get the money here as early as possible. And for that reason I confess to a good deal of disappointment that my suggestion for dra drafts or checks on some Boston bank has not been accepted, as that would get the money here at least two months earlier than in any other way. It is true that till the debt to Mr. Peet was paid off, sending money direct here would have meant that we would have received something to live on before Mr. Peet had been reimbursed in full; and that, Mr. Peet distinctly stated, was something that he could not allow. But now that He has no such claim on us, and the advantage to him of having our money pass through his hands would be relatively slight, perhaps he could be persuaded to accept a change.

Turning to other than financial matters, the question of reinforcementsis the one most urgently before us. I do not think that I need to write more on that subject, however, for I am sure that all possible measures are already being taken to bring the needed help. Both male and female departments are disastrously shorthanded this year, and another year of this sort would finish us, I am sure.

Nothing was said in your letter of the other questions of policy that were to be decided by the Trustees. The election of Native members of the Board of Managers and the granting of degrees. Possibly a later letter may bring word. The former questio will come up in about six weeks, at the latest, and our position will be extremely delicate if we have no answer from the Trustees. In case no further word comes, I think we will simply postpone all action in the matter.

A personal matter is the increase voted by the Trustees in my Salary. I have hesitated a good deal as to how to act in this matter, as the College is in such straits at present. But I have decided to accept the increase, thinking that it can be used as seems most expedient here. I thank the Trustees for their action.

Mrs. Riggs is quite wellagain, and gaining strength from day to day. She is up and about, though she has to limit her activity a good deal. She has entirely recovered from her illness, which was so serious both before and after the birth of our child. The little girl is also doing pretty well now, and I hope the difficulties for he her are also overcome. I feel thankful beyond expression for the goodness of God to us.

With sincere regards, I remain,

Yours very truly,

Henry H. Riggs.

H. H. Riggs

Harpoot - Turkey - Apr. 2 - 1908.

Questions

12 copies

College

Rec'd JUN 8 1908

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Euphrates College.

HARPOOT, TURKEY, May 14, 1908.

Rev. J. L. Barton, D. D.
Congregational House,
Boston, Mass.

My dear Dr. Barton;-

I am very sorry that I did not write to you some time ago to acknowledge the receipt of your remittance of two hundred pounds, which came, I think, on May 1st. I did not then know that you were in anxiety about the successful transmission of that draft. It was, as you surmised, a very timely help, and I think we shall pull through all right now. I shall send you my annual account as soon as I can after the end of June, and I hope we can begin the new year with a fairly clean sheet.

As to the general question of methods of remitting funds, as I wrote to you before, it is a matter about which Mr. Peet has shown some sensitiveness, and I should prefer that it should be done the way he prefers, as there has already been altogether too much friction between his office and Harpoot. The reasons for my wanting to have the remittances direct werefor the most part of relatively small importance, and I am quite willing to waive the matter. I do wish, however, that Mr. Peet could be persuaded to yield in the matter of having the drafts drawn on him as formerly. His proposed method of sending drafts of fixed sums to us, to be sold here, is costly and very difficult here at Harpoot, and it seems so simple a matter to restore the old system that it seems hard that he should insist as he does. I am afraid the fact of the matter is that he has lost confidence in Mr.Knapp and me, and does not want to risk our overdrawing again. If he does not allow us to draw drafts again, I think the cheapest alternative will be fore him to send us the cash by mail. That means an expense of .63%, but that is cheaper than trying to sell his checks. As Mr. Peet has to pay frequently as high as .9% on English paper in Constantinople, it means that the College has to pay from 1% to 1.5% on all its remittances, whereas foreign drafts drawn here sometime bring premium, and never, so far as I know, go more than .75% below par.

Last week Mr. Bujicanian, our teacher of Psychology, etc., who had been in Edinburgh studying during the past two years, arrived here. His safe return is a great relief to us all. He has been made Professor of Mental an d Moral Philosophy, and is going to be one of our strongest men. His return is a distinct step in advance for the College.

Mrs. Riggs continues to be very well, and little Annie is growing and

improving every day. Mrs. Riggs and I have been very much touched by the outpouring of love and sympathy and congratulations that has come to us, both here in Harpoot and in America. We did not know how much thought and prayer went out for us till the time of our trial was past and our friends could join with us in rejoicing. We ought to be much better missionaries for it.

I have long thought of writing you, personally, a word about the situation here, in our relation to the Germans. The situation has cleared rather rapidly of late months, and what has been revealed has been anything but encouraging, from the point of view of one who wants to co-operate with them. The facts that have been revealed by recent events seem to me to be chiefly three. 1. The German Committee at Frankfort cannot be depended on at all to carry out promises. That is a rather harsh thing to say, but I am fully convinced that it is not a particle too harsh, and that the ssoner we face the fact fairly and squarely, the better. I write this without waiting for an answer to Dr. Barnum's letter to them, sent three months ago, of which we have had no word of acknowledgement, though we know indirectly that it reached them. 2. The policy of the German Missionaries in our field is to keep a firm hand on church and school matters, practically ruling themselves. This is the exact opposite of the policy of self government of the churches and communities that has been built up in these past years of misionary work. In Mezireh, in Malatia and in Peri, they have driven out the pastors who have opposed their domination. In the last case, Badv. Asdour Nigoghosian has been forced to resign in a manner that was almost brutally direct, although his church and the whole city hold him in high regard. 3. The Germans have adopted the crowding policy, entering the places already occupied by us, almost without exceptio sharply resenting any similar action on our part, but gradually and steadily trying to supplant the American influence. This is especially so in educational work, where they have parallelled practically our entire system of schools, and seem to be trying to crowd us out. They and their agents have systematically criticised and opposed our College and Seminary, the opposition in the case of the latter amounting practically to a boycott, which threatens to be most serious. According to the agreement made some time ago, the Germans are gradually taking possession of the larger part of the field; but no content with that, they are also getting a predominent influence in several places in the part of the field that that agreement left to our care. And they have recently asked to have the formal as well as informal control in one of those towns, (Morenig)

From what I have said it would fairly be inferred that I would accuse the Germans here of duplicity and aggressiweness. Far from it. I do not think that most of them intentionally do any of these things. It is simply in their inheritance, and the instinct to elbow and push is as much a part of their make up as honesty is of

an Anglo-Saxon. Furthermore, there is a strong element among them who feel, with Saul of Tarsus, that they are verily doing God service in breaking down our influence. And finally, there are about three men in their employ who are exceedingly influential and who are active and outspoken in their opposition to us and to our institutions.

All this sounds a good deal like loose talking, I fear, because I have not time to marshal the evidence that makes all these things seem to me clearly true. If it is worth while to do so, a full report of the matter might be sent, on the part of the Station. But I have written these things to show why it is my firm conviction that the plans that have been so hopefully laid for co-operation with the Germans are doomed to failure. It is not an easy matter for us here to back out of the plans of co-operationthat we have entered, especially in view of the sincere friendliness of one or two of our German friends, and their assurances of good faith. I am convinced that eventually we must separate. It seems as if the most feasable plan would be for our Board to enter directly into conference with the Hulfsbund, with a view to setting apart some sufficiently large area in which the German missionary work shall be confined, and the Board withdraw from that area. If it seems best to hand over to them the whole of the Eastern Turkey Mission, or the Harpoot field, I for one, would rather clear out and go elsewhere than go on along the lines that are at present evident in our work. I am convinced that there is no use trying to work together by agreeing on lines of co-operation, because eitherthe agreements do not bind, or they are not understood in the same way by both parties.

Of course the College would be vitally affected by any such change, and I do not know just what to think of the future. The College has a history and a mission. But it does not seem to me that there ought to be two Protestant missionary Colleges so near together as Mezireh and Harpoot, especially in the present condition of the country. It is true that the Germans stoutly deny that they are to have a College. At the same time the denial is a purely technical one, and does not have any place in the minds of the natives. It is spoken of as a College by their own teachers, and all the machinery and phraseology of a College is in operation. At present that College is not in direct competition with ours, because their students are limited in number. Possibly this limitation will continue, but I shall be surprised if it survives the present administration of the school; and I confess that I should not at any moment be surprised to learn that their doors were thrown open to all comers, and that they were starting aggressive competitive work. As they call our school infidel, and theirs has the reputation of great piety, the result on the class of students we could get here would be most unfortunate. In this connection one incident should be narrated. Some two years ago some of my associates were very urgent that the College should be moved to Mezireh. This was quite against my own judgement, but as there was such urgency, the matter was brought up for discussion in a meeting of the Managers. The considerable

majority of the Board favored considering the matter, and I was directed to confer with Mr. Ehman about what their attitude would be. I never had a more disagreeable or more ipluminating conference than that one. Mr. Ehman and Mr. Sommer together gave me to understand that any such proposition was considered an unfriendly act. That they would not consider the idea of a division of the workwhich would make permanent the exclusive position of the College. And finally, that they considered Mezireh as their own field, and any intrusion on our part would be resented.

I have heard, indirectly,(I do not vouch for the truthfulness of this,) that the Mezireh circle have reported to Germany that they are willing to allow the Hospital to be established in Mezireh if we on our part will pledge not to move any other part of our work down. I shall be much interested to see if this report turns out true.

Now I have written all this to you, purely on my own responsibility, and without the knowledge of any of my associates. My purpose has been simply to give you my own personal point of view. If Pastor Lohman finally deigns to reply to Dr. Barnum's letter I shall urge that the Station officially report the whole matter to you. I urged that such a report be made three months ago, but the sentiments of charity and hope of a better understanding prevailed over my uncharitableand pessimistic ideas. Those sentiments have now had abundant time to cool off, and I rather expect that the reply when it comes may not find the same warmth of welcome that it might have had earlier.

I hope you will pardon this long and ~~xxxx~~ rambling letter, and will take the contents of it "cum grano", and put them away in that corner of your mind where you put undigested matter for future consideration.

Yours very sincerely,

Henry H. Riggs.

Henry A. Riggs

Harpoot-Turkey. May 14-1908.

Germans

c'd JUN 13 1908

Corr. Trustees

Euphrates College.

HARPOOT, TURKEY, May 21, 1908.

Rev. J. L. Barton, D. D.,
Congragational House,
Boston, Mass;-

My dear Dr. Barto;-

I cannot tell you how thankful I am for the telegram that came last Friday, telling of help for next year. Eight hundred dollars more for the new year will mean a very real and hopeful strengthening of our hands, for which I feel that I personally am most grateful. And I see in the telegram more than was written, namely the faith and sacrificing generosity of those who, in this lean year, have made it possible, and I cannot but think that the members of our Board of Trustees must have been the ones to make the sacrifice, most of all, and I want to thank them.

We shall within a few days have the regular meeting of the Managers. At that meeting I shall present a full statement of the condition of the finances, and ask the Managers to authorize careful estimates on the basis of the probable income for the year. As I understand it, this $800 is in addition, not to the $4600 that we have hitherto had, but in addition to the something like $4300 of our reduced income., making the total about $5100. In my estimates I shall also reckon in the $350(0) for tutors salary, which I understand has already been paid to us. In case either of these suppositions is wrong, I hope you will notify me. I shall recommend making all the increase thus allowed at first on teachers' salaries. Retrenching as much as possible on other expenditures.

Your letter about a report of our industrial work came by the last post. I will make out such a report as soon as possible, and make it, I hope as full as need be. Our industrial department has suffered for lack of attention on my part this year, but is nevertheless in excellent condition. Just at present the head of our Iron shop is in prison on charges connected with the discovery of a gun near his house. It is reported that he will probably be released soon, but I cannot express any great degree of assurance on that point. As to making any appeal for further help in the Industrial department, I think that our plant is at present adequate. It is, however, very desireable that provision be made for two needs. First, that there should be scholarship funds to pay students who work in the shops. Their work is, from a business point of view, of comparatively small value, and the need of keeping the shops on a self-supporting basis is a serious handicap to the first purpose of the work, namely to give boys a chance to earn money. And second, I very much wish that provision might be made for purely manual training in classes. Tools, materials, and instruction

for this would cost a good deal, and their would be no return for it, unless additional tuition were charged. In my statement of needs for Industrial work, sent to Mr. Bell, I have stated the latter need at £t.260 for outfit, and £t100 per annum for running expenses. Of course a good deal could be done with ~~xxxx~~ less than that, but more rather than less is really needed for the best work. I have not included the former need in that statement, because it is not strictlw a need of our industrial work, rather a need for scholarship funds.

Prof. Nahigian is grateful for the care taken in the matter of his deposit. He agrees perfectly with the decision in favor of a savingsbank. He now asks that his deposit in the bank be made up to $750. His original deposit of $250, plus interest, plus that accrued dividents on his stock investments to the date of your receiving the letter, may be supplemented by the money which he has deposited with me, and the latter item, enough to make the total $750, charged against the funds which you are sending to me. Prof. Nahigian desires the interest on this deposit to be deposited with the principal from year to year.

All well here. We are having a rather hard time with discipline just now, and nearly had a murder case this week. I hope, however, that the impression on the boys may sober them. One of our Seniors, in a rage at being teased, stabbed three of his classmates, but fortunately the wounds seem to be not serious.

Very sincerely yours,

Henry H. Riggs.

Henry H. Riggs

Harpoot - Turkey May 21 - 1908

~~Certificate~~

Rec'd AUG 8 1908

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Harpoot, July 15, 1908.

My dear Mr. Ehman-

Last evening we had a meeting at which the Station heard the report of the conference that we had with you and Mr. Sommer on Monday, and the Station has asked me to write to you in its behalf.

We all feel very strongly that while you and we are working in this same field, we must work together in Christian love and harmony: and we stand ready to make great sacrifices of personal preference, and we hope that you also are determined to maintain our unity of spirit and influence even at great sacrifice.

The question of the relationship of Germans and Americans in this c country, however, is a very large one, and concerns other stations than Harpoot and Mezireh. At the meeting of our Mission the whole question had very full and very prayerful consideration. We felt that such a large and vital question ought to be considered in the largest possible way. After very careful deliberation, therefore, the Mission decided to request our American Board to have some conference with the Hülfsbund, for the purpose of making plans that will lessen the chances of friction in this work, and make the labor of both societies more efficient. Possibly when the two Societies confer they may feel that there should be a more distinct division of territory. Or as some have suggested, it may be possible to agree on some better division of the various lines of work. Whatever may be decided, we as a Mission feel that the two Societies at home should confer together, and we on the field are ready to accept their joint plans, for the interests of Christ's Kingdom. We are sending all possible information and suggestions to our Board, and perhaps you may wish to do the same to yours.

In the meantime, and so far as we at Harpoot are concerned, let me repeat that we are very earnest in our determination to continue to work t together with you in love, as we have done hitherto. We wish to make no change except to have more of the spirit of Christ, and to be more careful to avoid occasions of friction and misunderstanding. And if our two Societies, looking at the question as it affects the whole country, should decide together on some different plan of work, it would still be the one desire of all of us that our work be so arranged and carried out as to accomplish the most for the Kingdom of Christ in this land.

In behalf of Harpoot Station,

Yours very sincerely,

Henry A. Riggs.

Copy. H. H. Riggs
to Mr. Ehman

Harpoot. Turkey. July 15 - 1908.

AUG 8 1908

314

Euphrates College.

HARPOOT, TURKEY, July 16, 1908.

Rev. James L. Barton, D.D.
Congregational House,
Boston, Mass.

My dear Dr. Barton:.

I have a good many business items about which I must write soon, but I am not ready for these yet, but do not wish to wait for those before expressing to you my mind on the German question, to which you refer in a recent letter to Dr. Barnum.

The vote of the mission on the subject did not take the form that you wished, and possibly if your letter had reached us before the meeting our action might have been more definite as to the manner of dividing the field. But the meeting is over, and now that the members of Harpoot station have signed the vote it is evident that the large majority of the mission are in favor of taking steps toward a definite division of the field between the Germans and ourselves. We felt that the proposal for such a division should be made by the board to the Hulfsbund, and the lines of division be drawn by the two bodies in consultation. Otherwise, if the proposal came from us on the field, personal elements and feelings would enter in and utterly spoil the plan. I wish it might be possible for you to have a personal conference with Pastor Lohmann on this matter, but I see no reason why, as he has already confidentially broached the matter, it could not be arranged by correspondence.

We have recently had a conference with our German friends here which has lead to a liitle more smoothe relationships for the time being, but I think it is not too strong to say that it has been at the sacrifice of the selfrespect of some of us Americans. I feel very strongly about the matter. In fact I suppose that I did more talking in Prudential meeting than anyone else on the side of immediate and definite action looking toward division of the field. We can get along with the Germans amicably only by making great sacrifices. We are entirely willing to make personal sacrifices, but the sacrifices necessary to continue this work are more than personal. The unnecessary duplication of educational plants, with the consequent difficulty of maintaining either, is to my mind entirely secondary to the moral loss that we must n necessarily accept as part of the cost of cooperation. I say necessarily, because matters have come to such a pass that it cannot be avoided. By the

moral loss I mean that we are now in the position where we have to appear as less than the real spiritual leaders that we should be. The Germans pose as"spiritual", and those who are immediately around themmake the most of the claim, and put us where some of the Germans have formerly done, as not "spiritual" The result is that the word spiritual has acquired an entirely artificial significance in this region, and we cannot do much to correct itso long as the Germans and their assistants hold the attitude that they do. We cannot take an attitude of criticism toward them, even if they do so towards us. One result is that we find ourselves affiliated with the forces that are farthest from our own spiritual ideals, and alienated from some of those with whom we would gladly be in closest union. The most striking illustration of this is the case of Badveli Yeghoyan, who came to us three years ago, and seemed a most hopeful addition to our working forces, but who has just recently sent us word that although he still will treat us as friends, he cannot recognize us any longer as fellow workers In one word, the presence of the Germans hereis progressively dividing the Christian forces of the region, not simply into two camps, but into two mutually exclusive and to some extent hostile camps.

Later: Since beginning this letter we have had our first meeting of the Co-operative Committee, and after it Mr. Browne had an interview with Mr. Ehmann and Mr. Sommer. Perhaps Mr. B will report on the interview. But as I wrote the letter in question, I will inclose a copy of the letter which I sent to them yesterday, by direction of the Station. The Germans expressed themselves as greatly hurt, and one of them said,"This sounds the death knell of our co-operation." They feel hurt that the Mission did not call them into consultation when the question was up. At first sight it may seem to an outsider that they may be right in that, but as a matter of fact they were at that time in an attitude of hostility toward us which made some of us feel that they would not again have any co.operation with us, and it was only after they had freed their minds in the interview referred to in the beginning of this letter that they consented to begin again. That interview (I had not intended to go so fully into this affair) was taken up with a long written statement, which Mr. Ehmann read to us, arraigning us as partisan and divisive, and ended up with the statement that if we were to continue to work together we must be willing to make a sacrifice, and they specified as the sacrifice that Mr. Carey should withdraw from all his activity in educational work, both Seminary and College. Mr. Carey was present, and listened to the whole arraignment with great composure. and at the end he said that he would yield to their desire and withdraw from teaching for the present. We all kept more or less silent through the whole affair, and I confess to a burning feeling of the shame of it all, though, perhaps under the

circumstances it was the right thing to do. As a matter of fact, although Mr. Carey has said some indiscrete things in his teaching, which have been talked about and caused animosity, there would never have been the talk nor the animosity if it had not been for the evil activity of two men in German employ, Badv. Bedros Garabedian and Dr. Michael, who the Germans themselves say are "anti-american. As a matter of fact, it was those same men, and their associates who, because their plans to dominate the Union were opposed, stirred up all of the trouble in the recent Union Meeting, and when they were finally voted down, left the meeting in wrath. And it was one of Mr. Ehmann's main counts against us that after those seven men had withdrawn, we invited the members of the Union out to meet the members of our mission, instead of joining with the Germans in repudiating and ridiculing the Union because the extreme pro-German members had left it.-- But I must not go on with this, for my angry passions are in danger of rising. We have maintained the policy of never speaking to the Armenians in criticism of the Germans, and of speaking directly to them of their misdeeds only in extreme cases. Any such arraignment as they gave us, if given to them would, I feel very sure, bring a speedy end to all relationships between us, I say this thoughtfully and on the basis of experiences.

I think I have said enough to show you why it seems to me vital to the future of our work that the two boards come to an agreement to divide the field before it is too late. I feel this so strongly that I say now to you what I said to my associates before the Mission meeting, and repeated in that meeting. If this action should result in the Harpoot field being entirely given up to the Germans, and the College moved away or fused into their work. I should feel that it would be better for the Kingdom of Christ than a continuance of the present status. It would be a great injustice for them to demand such a thing, but if they should, and if the partition of the field depended on giving them this entire field, I should beg that you yield and have it over with, and send me home or to Hankiyankiyankiyo, or any where where I am needed, rather than have the plan of comity in this matter fail.

As to what the division ought to be I suppose it is not in my sphere to suggest. The attitude of Mr. Yarrow, who represented both Van and Bitlis, in a way, prevented the Mission from taking any action on Dr.Reynolds' letter and proposition. It was not presented at the meeting. But the idea of exchanging Bitlis for Van seemed to those with whom I have talked about it a most feasable and reasonable plan. To make it include the Harpoot problem, my personal suggestion, or even request, would be that the whole matter be dealt with as one question, and the Germans held to one solution. This would mean that Harpoot and Mezireh should not continue to be occupied by the two

Societies, but one must go elsewhere. For even if the Germans nominally went back to Orphan work, as they periodically threaten to do, the question of moral and spiritual rivalry would still be untouched. I talked with Mr. Yarrow very fully on this subject, and he felt about as I do. It seemed to me then that if the Germans are really in earnes about missionary work in this land, they would find ample scope for their activities in a field composed of the present Bitlis field and that part of the present Harpoot field which lies East of the West branch and North of the East branch of the Euphrates river. That would mean that the Germans should leave Malatia, Mezireh and Van. The property question could be settled on the basis of exchange at fair valuation, and I do not know who would be the gainer. But such a division would have the distinct advantage of giving a distinct natural boundary for most of the line. If it was decided that Marash should be included in the transfer, or if the Germans could show that they really need more territory, then either Harpoot or Van could be added to their field. Van seems the more natural, as being less firmly established in many ways, and as being isolated if Bitlis is in the hands of another Board. But perhaps this is the Harpoot point of view, and I want to repeat that I am entirely sincere in my readiness to stand by your decisions, even if it means pulling out of our own work. I hope you will not mention this to any of the friends of the College who might consider it high treason. But I do believe that no institution, and no amount of external mechanical success is so important to the Kingdom of God as the spritual influence which I have seen more and more sacrificed because of the rivalry of the Germans, ever since I came here.

I have said enough: perhaps altogether too much. If so I hope you will be patient with this long outbreak. It is from the regions where my real feelings and motives live. We have done a great deal of praying and a great deal of careful thinking on this subject.

I have yet to send you my report of the College. I might have sent you the report that I presented to the Mission, but it was not just what I want the Trustees to have, and was not very well digested. I will send that soon.

Yours very sincerely,

Henry H. Riggs.

This letter is simply my personal ideas, without any consultation with anyone else.

Harford Tarr
Harvey Tarr
July 16-1908.

Rec'd OCT 17 1908

Harpoot, Turkey, Sept 24. 1908

My dear Dr. Barton:

I have a letter half written to you but have only time to day to scribble a note. Possibly others have written you of Dr. Barnum's accident and hopeful recovery. He fell with his horse last Thursday, fracturing two ribs and the bones about his eye. It looked very serious for a while, but now he is sitting up a little each day, and getting on nicely. His mind, except for the first day, has been perfectly clear and his spirits and his thoughtfulness for others have been beautiful.

The remittance of 250 pounds came yesterday, having gone by way of Alexandretta. I had to borrow money while waiting for this. I had counted on getting it in August. It is a good deal less than I had expected. No doubt it is all right, but I wonder if we could have a more exact statement of when and in what amounts we are

to expect remittances. This financial business is going to be the death of me if I cannot get a better understanding about it.

I had intended writing at length of the needs of our press, of which I sent you a bunch of circulars last week. We need, 1. Good rollers. If money comes in for the work, we ought to have rollers for both presses. I give dimensions on separate sheet.

We also very much need some small fonts of large type for tickets, labels etc, as our supply is deficient one font has no G's one lacks K's and P's. etc. Also some similar fonts in Armenian.

I will write more fully later. I never came to the beginning of a year so utterly exhausted as this year, and yet we have good help, and I hope things are going to go all right. Mr. Harper is taking us all by storm, and we thank God.

Cordially

Henry H. Riggs.

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The circulars were printed by our boys on the small press. It was rather badly defective, but an old stove lid serves as inking platen, and a mimeograph roller melted up with an old hektograph made a passable pair of rollers, though not ideal.

✓

Cole

Rec'd NOV 30 1908

Euphrates College.

HARPOOT, TURKEY, Nov 4, 1908

Rev. J. L. Barton, D.D.
Congregational House,
Boston, Mass:

My dear Dr. Barton:

Prof. Nahigian has been in several times of late, asking whether I could tell him, or find out for him, anything about the status of his account. He has, in addition to the savings bank deposit recently made up to $750., some investments in stocks or bonds, the income from which Mr. Davis used to report to me semi-annually. Since he retired no further accounts have been received. It was the intention when Prof. N.'s deposit was made up to $750. that most of that sum should come from the dividends on his investment. Instead of this the whole sum needed was charged to his deposit here.

Will you please secure a complete statement of all dividends received on those investments at least so far back as the beginning of 1906, and arrange to have the money sent here regularly hereafter.

I have been greatly disappointed in the matter of remittances from Boston, and have been in a rather desperate plight a gooddeal of the time. At the beginning of the new year, July 1., I was very hopeful that

we were going to get along without any more financial agony, and wrote you to that effect. I was depending on the schedule that you had sent to me, showing when the income was available. But apparently I did not at all understand the schedule, for in the five months that have elapsed (including June) I have received only one remittance, £250, and of that nearly £66 was for Miss Daniels. Whereas the sums on the schedule for these months amounts to $2326. Of course it is too soon for the October remittances to reach here, and $458. went into Prof. Nahigian's investments, but there still remains a shortage of over $800. of what I had expected to receive.

Now please do not understand me to accuse any one of embezzlement! I only state the above figures to illustrate the need I feel of knowing accurately what funds I can expect. May I therefore ask you to secure for me the needed information.

1. When, and in what sums are funds to be remitted from the endowment income?

2. When has the Pushmanian scholarship and prize money, ($220. per annum), been received and remitted to me? Has the arrangement been made as I requested, to have it remitted in advance? Of course this is essential.

3. How much has been received from Mr. Pashgian on his gymnasium fund, and when remitted here.

4. How many of the following are included in the regular income, (no 1)? (a) Prof. Nahigian's investment. (b) The Hedjinian Scholarship. (c) The Pashgian Scholarship. (d) Mr. Kayenjian's tutor fund.

I am preparing a statement about the present situation of the College, which I hope to print and send out pretty freely. At a time of great need and great opportunity we are obliged to cut all expenses down to the quick, and even then I have frequently had to delay rightful payments for lack of funds. This financial business will be the death of me yet.

There are many matters more to write about, but I must delay till another time, and close. I have had to give a good deal of time this term to the Press, as we have no one to take up the printers trade very intelligently, and I have had to work out a good many problems that would be easy to a good printer, besides teaching the boys.

Yours very truly

Henry H. Riggs.

Harpoot - Turkey - Nov. 4 - 1908.

Questions

College

Rec'd DEC 21 1908

Euphrates College.

HARPOOT, TURKEY, Nov. 19, 1908.

Rev. James L. Barton, D. D.

14 Beacon St., Boston, Mass.

My dear Dr. Barton:-

I have just received your letter suggesting that I should give you more information about our College work. I am very sorry that it should be necessary for you to make any such request, for I know well enough that that is an important part of my work. I have written several times but always rather hastily, so that I am afraid a good many important details have been left out. Just at present I am at work on a report of the College which I intend to print here and send to you. I think very likely that the printing on our press, though not as artistic as it would be done in America, may add to the interest of the reports. I hope to have these ready within a week or so. I am also working on the other report which you asked me to send of the industrial department, but I find that that takes a good deal of detail work and it will perhaps be a few weeks more before it is ready. I must have photographs to accompany it, and photographing takes time.

With regard to our needs, I suppose simply stating what we need is not what is wanted, and so I will not lay so much emphasis on that until I can send a little more detailed information, but I will mention to you one or two things which have been in my mind of late.

Our press has a wonderful opportunity here. We have a very limited outfit and so cannot do anything like the work that is wanted of the press. Five hundred dollars invested in type and other accessories

and in getting out a few books would put the press in a position where it could do a very large work. We have already had application from three newspapers to be printed at our press. We will probably begin soon to print one of them, our own College paper, but the others have to be refused. I know of about a dozen text books which we might begin to print almost immediately if we had sufficient type and the capital for having them printed. I do not think that this work would in any sense be in unfair rivalry with the press at Constantinople, as almost all of this work will never be done unless we do it here.

The new régime in this country has not wrought any very startling changes in our work. I wrote you before the beginning of the term of the action which our Faculty and Managers took in regard to receiving Turkish students, but no Turkish students have yet applied since that time. I do not think that we shall have many in the near future, but we are ready to welcome them when they come. We do, however, feel the need of much better work in our College to meet the new demands upon us. Our students want to be lawyers and leaders among their people, and a good many of them are looking to the Turkish schools, where the preparation, though not so complete, is more directly along the lines of their ambitions. We ought to have better quality of instruction and that means a larger teaching force. A good many men whom we have valued in the past have gone to America, and until this year we had counted such as lost forever to our teaching force. But now that the way is open some of them could come back if we were in a position to call them. I think many of them are thinking of just this possibility and it would greatly strengthen our work if we could call at least two or three now. The financial hindrance at present is insuperable.

Another need of the present time is for some changes in our buildings, and especially the erection of a library and science building. We do not need any more accessions in our lower departments but the College itself continues to be crowded. When Mr. Hicks was here he remarked on the poor quality of our buildings and said that he wished that our College buildings might be something of the inspiration to our students that the beautiful College buildings in America are. This need is more pressing just now, not because of an increase in our students but because of the need which we shall I feel sure have of greater alertness to compete with new schools which have been or will be established. If the College is to hold its own it must move forward.

This bare statement of the needs is perhaps not enough to convey to you an idea of the reason for these needs, and I shall write again more fully as soon as the report is ready to send.

The need which touches me most closely is the need of more efficient management. Especially during the past few months I have been overwhelmed with a great deal more work than I could do, and the need of some assistance in the way of a business manager or some one to work particularly in our industrial departments is becoming more and more evident. As I have said a good many times before, I will be more than glad to divide my work and give either half of it to someone else. My own tastes would lead me to prefer to keep the management of the mechanical side of the work, as I do not feel as if I had any particular fitness for superintending the educational work. If some one could be found for that it would suit my personal tastes best, but if it is easier to find a business and industrial manager I should be perfectly willing to turn over that department to him and devote myself to school work. But I feel that it is absolutely wrong for me in my present state of health to try to do both things. Isuppose it is my own fault

for opening up this industrial work, but five years ago we had good reason to hope that the help needed was forthcoming. Is it not possible that the way may open for some one to come to take up one or the other of these two parts of the work?

I suppose that all that I have said depends on the securing of more funds, and from all that I have heard lately the prospect for that is not particularly bright. But I shall try in the future to do my part of that more faithfully. It is going to be a great deal easier to keep up with correspondence now that Miss Poole is giving me so much and such efficient help. I never was much of a hand at writing letters and I find it a great deal easier to talk as I am doing now.

The expected remittances from Boston have not yet appeared. I wonder what the matter is. Our situation was for awhile rather desperate but fortunately some rather large deposits have been made which tide us over until the delayed remittances can come. I wrote you of this matter a couple of weeks ago and I hope that after this I can know a little more definitely what to count on.

With cordial regards, I am,

Yours sincerely,

Henry H Riggs.

Probably you have heard that Miss Poole is acting as stenographer for several members of the circle. It is a great help to me.

Henry H. Riggs

Harpoot - Turkey Nov. 19 - 1908.

Rec'd DEC 21 1908

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Euphrates College.

HARPOOT, TURKEY, Nov. 24, 1908.

My dear Enoch:-

I have been looking over old letters lately and trying to pick up neglected bits of business, and among other things I find your letter of March 24th in which reference is made to some literature about the new effort that was being made at that time to raise money for the higher educational institutions of the Board. When your letter came there was no literature either enclosed or with it, and none came afterwards; so I do not know what there may have been and what you referred to in your letter. But the fact that I did not answer it at that time would convey a wrong impression, for I certainly was very much interested in what you were doing for our colleges. This is just a personal word to say that I am interested and would like to see the literature to which you referred. Perhaps you have published something else since. During this week I expect to get ready a report of the College, which I will send to Dr. Barton, which will give you some of the information for which you asked at that time. I think I have already sent since your letter came a good deal along the same line, but I dare say that the information that we send cannot be repeated too often and that some of it is used every time.

We find ourselves confronted by very great opportunities at this time, and we feel that the emphasis that is laid upon Turkey just at this time in the home churches is none too strong. I shall have a good deal more to say before the end of the year about our College work and its prospects for the future. Some think we will have a large

increase of students next year and some think that there will be a striking falling off. The fact is we cannot predict until people have become accustomed to the new atmosphere and decided for themselves what they are going to do. Some of our students have left to enter Turkish schools, and one of these wrote the other day begging to be taken back into the College. How far his experience will be repeated by others I don't know, but we shall probably have enough material to work on however things turn out. I feel the need as never before of the spiritual power to influence the boys who are gathered here. It is going to be a great problem to keep them from drifting away from the influences which we have been trying to throw around them.

I am so sorry that Mr. Hicks is going to leave your service. I know you will miss him, but no doubt he will be just as useful in New York. I wonder who will do his work in Boston. Will you have some one specially appointed for that post or will it be added burdens for the rest of you?

Cordial regards to Mrs. Bell from

Your same old friend,

Henry H. Riggs.

Henry H. Riggs

Harpoot Turkey Nov. 24-1908

JAN 2 RECD JAN 26 1909

What is the Work which a Graduate of Euphrates College can do in Turkey?

Before speaking about the work of our College graduates we must observe the centre in which they live.

The graduates of our College have in their minds one thought, "How can I go to America after finishing my course at College." Their eyes turn always to that resplendent country and they think that the future having the crown of prosperity waits there for them. I think that there is much work to be done in this country for our poor brethren. In many of our cities and villages Armenian brethren sleep in the darkness without any light. College graduates full of science must be luminous torches for them who are in the maze of darkness.

College has put a duty on its graduates shoulders and they must accomplish it. "Go and work for your ignorant fellow man." This is a precept. Some graduates are now physicians, merchants, secretaries, councellors,

editors, preachers and so on. I b[illegible]
that when a graduate wishes to be [illegible]
for others, if he performs the lowest [illegible] ork
he can be useful to his fellow men.

Vahan Tereshetian.

Junior
1908. Nov. 21 Harpoot.

This is sent without the knowledge of the writer. His name should not be published in any way.

H. G. R.

Rec'd JAN 2 Rec'd

320.

Euphrates College.

HARPOOT, TURKEY, Nov. 30, 1908.

Rev. J. L. Barton, D. D.,
Boston, Mass.

My dear Dr. Barton:-

I enclose with this an essay which one of our Juniors wrote last week. As showing the spirit now abroad among the boys I think you will be interested in it. The boy who wrote this essay last year told me that he intended to go to America as soon as he had graduated from College, but when he returned this fall he told me that he had entirely changed his mind and was going to stay and either teach or preach in this country. He is not an isolated case. I suppose that large and small there are scores who have gone through just the same change during the last six months. I send the essay to you thinking that possibly you can make some use of it.

Yours very sincerely,

Henry H. Riggs.

Henry H. Riggs

Harpoot - Turkey Nov. 30-1908

Rec'd JAN 4 1909

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Euphrates College.

HARPOOT, TURKEY, Dec. 3, 1908.

Rev. J. L. Barton, D. D.,

14 Beacon St., Boston, Mass.

My dear Dr. Barton:-

Last Monday evening we had a meeting of the Station at which matters of such great importance to the College were discussed that I want to write quite at length reporting the action of the Station, and also giving my own ideas on the subject. As you know, some two years ago the question of moving the College to Mezereh was agitated by some of the members of the Station. (At that time it was my personal opinion that especially in view of the attitude of the Germans such action would be unfortunate and of doubtful necessity.)

Circumstances have gradually changed since that time, and the new political conditions of this country have made the outlook for the College quite different from what it was before. Before the great change the College had its position as a missionary institution, and whatever its future growth we felt that it would hold its position among the missionary forces. Now, however, we see forces* at work which will compete very strongly with our own, and it seems evident that the College in order even to hold its own must become a much more progressive institution. Moreover, under the new régime there is no longer a feeling of limited opportunities and possibilities. The College has before it an unlimited field, provided that it can pre-empt that field. I think if we look forward not five or six years but fifty or sixty years the condition of the College as it then ought to be will present quite a different picture from what it now is. It ought to be a growing college. Some people think that it ought to be a university. I am quite willing

* I refer to government + other, native schools, and organizations.

to let that question wait for the future to decide, but I am not willing to let its growth as a college be decided adversely by any inertness on our part at present.

I have come now to believe fully and very earnestly that the College department of our work ought to be located on the plain somewhere near Mezereh, and that this change ought to be made at once at whatever cost. I will first enumerate some of the objections and the difficulties to be overcome. In the first place, such a change would without doubt meet with the bitter opposition of our German friends. Dr. Atkinson reported to you their attitude about that matter, which has been the attitude which they have taken ever since the matter was first broached here. I do not know what their objection is to such a change. Putting together all of their official statements in the matter, no logical reason has appeared for their objecting to our moving the College to Mezereh. They state very emphatically that they do not propose to have a college. They state also that they wish to have the work of the two bodies go along side by side in harmony. But they do very seriously object to this step being taken for the College and a good many explanations have been given for their attitude. I do not wish to choose any one of these explanations because, to tell the truth, none of them are very creditable. The explanation which was given by one of the members of the German circle was that they could not believe that if we should bring the College department to Mezereh we would not also move down our high school and preparatory work, and that would be in competition to theirs and an injury to their work. Another explanation that has been given is that in reality they hope to build up a college and do not think that their college will prosper if it grows up under the shade of one already so long established. The third explanation is offered by the reiterated statements of some of our German friends here and in Germany to the effect that they feel

themselves obliged to oppose our work on theological grounds, and do not wish our college to grow. A fourth explanation I will simply mention, and that is a feeling of apprehension lest there should be more difficulty in getting along together if any large part of our forces were in close proximity to each other. I will not express any opinion as to which if any of these explanations are correct, but simply say that it does not seem to me that any of them are of force in our present circumstances. The friendship of the Germans would be of very great value to us if there were any hope of maintaining it on a firm basis, but that hope has been growing smaller and smaller in the minds of almost all of us until we have most of us come to the conclusion that to sacrifice more for the sake of that friendship is only to invite injury without any substantial compensation. I have therefore come to the conclusion myself, and it was the all but unanimous opinion of the Station, that the opposition of the Germans should not be considered an obstacle to making this move.

The ~~second~~ difficulty is that of adequate working force. If we divide our institutions our present working force cannot cover the ground; so that I have calculated as nearly as I could the necessary increase to our working force. We must have one American as Principal of the preparatory department, one business manager, and at least two additional native teachers. In case the female department of the College also moves, one or two more American lady teachers will be necessary. These seem like rather large demands, and if they are too large to be met the College cannot be moved.

The ~~third and~~ largest-appearing obstacle is that of funds for buildings. We cannot establish a dignified and satisfactory plant for less than $30,000;or $40,000.if the girls' department were to move down. Of course all of this money need not be had at once. The

buildings absolutely needed for the first year, together with grounds, water, etc., could be provided for $20,000, and the College could get along on that amount for buildings for several years, although in that case rents for teachers' houses would constitute a rather large item of additional expense. Together with the endowment necessary to provide for the additional running expenses, the money that would be needed to accomplish this move and do it well would be from $80,000 to $100,000. I should be willing to do it if we had $50,000, but $80,000 is the least sum on which it can be well done and $100,000 would be much better.

Another objection that might be raised by one who was not familiar with the conditions here might be the disadvantage of a divided institution. Such a change would mean that we should have our preparatory departments up here at Harpoot, and perhaps the girls' college department, while the College itself would be down on the plain. There would be a certain amount of disadvantage in the missionary forces being divided, but the advantages of having the higher and lower departments entirely distinct would be overwhelmingly greater. The College could then progress as a college and the preparatory departments would have added prestige and added opportunity for growth.

I have thus mentioned a few of the difficulties in the way of this move. I will now turn to what perhaps might seem to be naturally first, the advantages to be gained by such a move. In the first place our grounds and buildings are not adequate for our work as it is now conducted. We find ourselves very greatly crowded for recitation rooms, for library facilities, and for laboratory work. We are also in need of a gymnasium. We have laid plans for these things, and the plans, which were the best that we could devise, if carried out will result in serious disadvantages. The gymnasium must take away from

the already pitifully small play ground of the boys. The girls' recitation rooms, if built, will similarly cut off from the little square in which the girls play. The plans for library and laboratory involve cutting off the light and air from half the President's house and the printing office. We are too crowded. Moreover, our boys and girls have no opportunity for athletic exercises such as they need. You know the nature of our grounds here. You know that the girls play in a little square between the College and our house, which offers hardly two square yards for each of our pupils. Of course the result is that they cannot all play there and some of them have to go out on the roof. The boys are a little better off, and yet what athletics can be expected on grounds which have no expanse of more than 75 ft. at any one point? This lack of play ground leaves its mark on our students. I think the boys suffer more than the girls do in this respect because they ought to gain more from athletic work; and this difficulty is irremediable as long as we are in Harpoot. There used to be a hope of getting for athletic purposes the hill-top above the College. It has been impossible to secure that up to the present and it has gradually been converted into a Turkish cemetery, so that even under the most favorable circumstances we could only get a very small place there, not sufficient for any real athletic work. This one argument for moving down to the plain for lack of place for play grounds is to my mind a most serious one, and would perhaps be sufficient reason in itself for the spending of a good many thousand dollars.

But this is only one of several important considerations. The second is that this College is being called on to meet other needs than what it now meets. There has been a very earnest desire that the College should open a department of agriculture. The agricultural possibilities of this country are just beginning to be appreciated, and a

good many of our friends, most intelligent and completely interested in the College, feel that one of the greatest opportunities of the College is to lead in the agricultural regeneration of this land. But in the nature of the case that is impossible so long as we are up on this rock. Anything along the line of agricultural education must be carried on down on the plain, and we have felt thus far that we could not do it at arms length. There is also demand for commercial and engineering schools. A good deal of doubt has been expressed as to whether a missionary college should go into that kind of business. But the situation of Euphrates College, commanding as it does the whole of Armenia and Eastern Asia Minor, gives it the opportunity of being the great institution to meet the needs of this region; and I am thoroughly convinced that an agricultural, a commercial and an engineering school would pay dividends in spiritual results not at all inferior to our academic department, provided, of course, that our schools were properly manned and properly supported by Christian people. A good deal has been said about other departments, such as medicine, pharmacy, dentistry and law. These for the present seem to me entirely problematical, but the others which I have enumerated above are immediate necessities. If we could move down to the plain now, secure a good site and establish ourselves anywhere in the vicinity of Mezereh, we would be in a position when opportunity offered to go ahead along any of these lines, whereas up here on the hill we are debarred from any effective work along these lines, and others will naturally feel that we are out of the race.

A good many events in the recent past have brought to our minds the fact that Mezereh and not Harpoot is the center of influence of this Vilaiet. If a meeting is to be held, notice of anything is to be given, which is to reach the villages round about, Harpoot is out of the way

and Mezereh is the center. The Government, commercial life, and social life center in Mezereh. Harpoot is becoming more and more a deserted village, both actually-in the matter of population-and also in the matter of its influence and importance. Many have said that if the College should move to Mezereh there would be nothing left at Harpoot but the Mullahs. And I should not be at all surprised if the population of Harpoot should actually diminish for a great many years to come. Mezereh on the other hand is a growing town, and growing in the best elements of the population. From the standpoint of possible students alone Mezereh furnishes about twice as large a field as Harpoot at the present time, because, being on the plain, it is within easy reach from so many of the villages. And when one looks into the future we are strongly reminded of the fact that a college cannot get along without students, and that if students are invited on the one hand from Harpoot and on the other hand from Mezereh, Harpoot must have extraordinary attractions to bring them all the way up this hill.

One other item I have hesitated considerably to mention, but I am afraid that the worst is true in regard to the future attitude of other workers in this field towards our College; and if it is true that the College must fight for its existence and influence it ought to be in a position to make a strong fight and a decisive one. I do not believe that the College here in Harpoot will go to destruction or entirely lose its influence, but the distance from the center of population and influence puts the College at a serious disadvantage when there is any knifing going on, and I believe that a strong preparation for war is the best assurance of peace. I believe thoroughly that if we were located on the plain we should have much less reason for suspicions and friction with other workers in the field.

I have stated these arguments at considerable length. They have been talked over at various times and with great earnestness here in Harpoot. The result has been that most of the members of the Station are convinced that such a move should take place, that whatever the cost the effort should be made and made in such a determined way that it will succeed. I hope that Dr. Barnum will write you of his point of view. He is not convinced of the necessity or wisdom of such a move, and of course we all give a great deal of weight to his judgment. But the rest of us, I think without exception, are convinced that the change should take place. A good many have said the change ought to have taken place thirteen years ago, or if not then it ought to have taken place two years ago. But there seems to be no use in discussing this point, the question is for the immediate future, and the practical difficulty is the financial one. I believe that our Trustees would accept the judgment of the Station in such a matter except that it involves so large an outlay. As the outlay is involved, and as it is such a serious one, we feel that the first thing is to secure the consent of the Trustees. The Station at its meeting this week felt that it was ~~entirely~~ too soon to take any steps here looking towards such a move. We felt that the matter ought to be kept quiet here until we could hear from Boston. They therefore voted to lay the matter before you with the request that you would lay the facts and arguments in the case before the Board of Trustees, and, if you think necessary, before the Prudential Committee, and ask them to pass upon the question whether they would approve an effort being made to raise $80,000 or $100,000 for the purpose of this move. As to the possibility of raising it if effort is made, that is a matter of faith and hard work. I believe it can be done. We have the strong backing of our Alumni, and the move which is proposed would be an exceedingly popular

one with them. I know from what has been said here that many at least of the Alumni would be enthusiastic and would be willing to make great sacrifices for the purpose of securing a place in Mezereh. I have never had any experience myself in raising money, but I should stand ready to do my part whatever that may seem to be. I think all the members of the Station would do their best to make such a canvass a success, because it seems to be a crisis in the work of our College and therefore in the work of our Station. Will our Trustees accept this judgment and authorize a vigorous effort to raise the money? If the canvass is made it would naturally be carried on along the lines of the two million dollar fund which is now being solicited. We would accept any limitations that seemed required by fairness to other institutions, but we would wish to have the privilege of making every effort and turning every stone.

I have written perhaps enough. I feel myself, and I think others have felt perhaps more strongly, that this is the turning point in the history of the College, that the new conditions, both political and otherwise, have put us in a dilemma where we must either advance or lose influence. If the Trustees give their consent to this advance without any financial guarantee before-hand, we shall still be very much inclined to burn our bridges and ~~pin~~ stake our life on success. By doing so we shall the sooner reach success, and if we do not do so to try and fail would mean almost the death of the College.

In case of a favorable reply from you the matter will be formally laid before the Board of Managers, before the Faculty and the Alumni and other friends. No such steps have been taken now because, as I said, it seemed desirable to keep the matter quiet until definite plans were to be made. But there is no question whatever what the attitude of these bodies will be, and you may feel sure that if the Trustees accept the proposition and give their authority it will mean that the College will move to Mezereh if it takes twenty-five years to do it.

Earnestly yours,

Henry H. Riggs.

H. N. Riggs

Harpoot Turkey Dec. 3-1908.

Corporation for
Memorial to College &
Research

College

10 copies

(copied 12/22/10)

Rec'd JAN 26 1909

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Euphrates College.

HARPOOT, TURKEY, Dec. 22, 1908.

Rev. James L. Barton, D. D.,

14 Beacon St., Boston, Mass.

My dear Dr. Barton:-

I have just received your letter of Nov. 14th reporting the remittance of £200 sterling to Mr. Peet. With regard to the method of meeting charges that come through him, I have suggested two or three times that he should charge such items on the station accounts so that I could settle them here. A few weeks ago I received a letter from him asking me to pay the £50 of which he had written you, and I again suggested that he should charge it on the station account. I have not yet received any answer to that letter and do not know whether that method will be satisfactory to him or not. The two disadvantages of sending checks from Boston through Mr. Peet are first the added delay, and second some added expense on exchange. But I confess that I have had all I want of discussion on financial methods and am perfectly willing to abide by what you and he decide upon.

With regard to the business agent I have recently written you about how important it seems to me. I certainly hope that the plan will succeed, although I do not at all blame the trustees for being cautious in the matter. You are quite right in the supposition that our appropriations for this year were calculated on the basis of $800 more than the income from the endowment. I am quite sure that I wrote you quite definitely on this subject last May when the estimates for the coming year were made out. Just now I am in bed with a touch of rheumatism. When I am able to be around again I will look up and send

you a duplicate of that letter and of the estimates. We made our estimates on the basis of the telegram which you sent saying that $800 had been secured for the coming year's expenses, and it was with the hope that we should be able to continue on the same scale in the future; but as you wrote me at the time, there was no promise of such help hereafter. I should think the trustees are quite right in making the sending out of a business agent conditional on securing the money, but I earnestly hope that the money will be forthcoming.

I wish there were something more that I could do along this line. I am sending out some reports and shall send you this week a few items of general interest with the hope that they may help in arousing interest. I have been very remiss in this matter in the past but shall try to do better hereafter. I cannot tell you how your strong, courageous words helped me personally in the outlook for the future. It is inspiring to know that those in the home land are determined to push the work in this country at this time of special need.

With sincere regards,

Yours very truly,

Henry H. Riggs.

Henry A. Riggs

Harpoot. Turkey Dec. 22-1908.

FEB 18 1909

Henry H. Riggs

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Euphrates College,

Personal

HARPOOT, TURKEY,

Jan 22, 1909

My dear Dr. Barton:

I want to write just a word about Dr. Atkinson's return. I voted, heartily, for his return. I very much wish that the vote might have been unanimous. I am much afraid that the opposing votes will have an unfortunate effect on him.

What I want especially to write to you is this. To my mind the uncompromising attitude of Mr. Rapp raises a serious question. We want them both to return, but it is only in the hope of a real reconciliation between them that I can

conscienciously vote for it. Both are nervously worn and could not see things in a right light when in such a condition. It seems to me that while both are in the United States they ought to be able to come to an understanding and agree to cordially work together here. If they cannot do so; if each maintains an attitude of hostility to the other, I think it would be wrong for them to return together.

I think that as between the two men, if I felt that a choice must be made, I should rather have Dr. H. return than Mr. Knapp. The station passed a vote some time ago, expressing the desire that Mr. Knapp return after his furlough. But it was on the express understanding that we should be ready to co-operate with Dr. Hutchinson;

and when it comes to the formal vote for Mr. Knapp's return, I shall want some assurance that he has abandoned his present attitude toward the doctor, before I can vote for it. I write you this now because I know it will be a serious question, in view of the opposition of Mr. Knapp and Mr. Brown & the Wards, whether Dr. Atkinson should return or not.

As to Dr. Atkinson, I am not blind to his faults. But I am convinced that they are of a nature to be overcome; and I feel, very keenly, "that in the course of justice none of us should see salvation".

I will inclose a couple of views in our printing

in getting the press formally authorized. We made application through our consul in September. There has been no opposition of any sort, but inertia, ignorance of the law, and characteristically Turkish delays have made progress slow. Meanwhile our consuls have advised us to go ahead with job work; but book printing has to wait on these unexpected delays.

Cordially yours.

Henry H. Riggs.

Rec'd FEB 19 1909

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Euphrates College.

HARPOOT, TURKEY, Jan 23, 1909.

My dear Dr. Barton:

The remittance of £stg 200 which you reported sending ~~to~~ Mr. Peet on Nov 14 has not yet reached me. Mr. Peet acknowledged its receipt, and said that after deducting all charges he had £T 128. left to our credit. But for reasons best known to himself he has not forwarded any of it to me. I confess to being greatly annoyed and inconvenienced by Mr. Peet's action in this matter. We have been compelled to borrow money to live on while he holds on to our funds.

I had previously expressed myself willing to have our funds transmitted through him. But I think you will not consider it unreasonable if I request that all remittances in the future be sent directly here. I have made arrangements with Mr. Knapp and Mr. Peet to have all charges sent through the station accounts, which leaves no need of sending any of our money to Mr. Peet.

We felt an earthquake here this morning and the seismograph indicates that what was

(over)

felt here was only the outskirts of a terrific shock some 400 or 450 miles away, probably in the region of Bagdad. If this is so, I fear we may hear more sickening accounts of destruction such as we have been hearing from Sicily. The seismograph gave a striking record of that earthquake also. I think I have never written you of this instrument. It occupies an important position as the only seismograph in Asia Minor*, and has already put the college into touch with many scientists. I regard it as a valuable advertisement for the College. All the expense incurred has been covered by the payment received for an article about it in the Scientific American (Oct 17)

Yours very sincerely
Henry H. Riggs.

*Except one in Smyrna which only records local shocks.

Henry H. Riggs
Jan. 23-1909.

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Rec'd MAR 1 1909

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Euphrates College.

HARPOOT, TURKEY, Jan. 26, 1909.

Rev. J. L. Barton, D. D.,

14 Beacon St., Boston, Mass.

My dear Dr. Barton:-

Your two letters of Dec. 22d came by yesterday's post, also your letter of Dec. 29th to Dr. Barnum bringing later news about the prospects of Mr. Ward's coming. I don't think you can imagine what a feeling of relief the prospect has brought to me. I have felt for a long time such a great burden from some features of the work, and now the definite hope that Mr. Ward will come and relieve us is a greater help to me in present work than you can imagine, and I want to thank you personally for the interest that you have taken in the matter. Of course Mr. Knapp will have his share in Mr. Ward's time, and in the case of his work also his coming will be a very welcome help, as Mr. Knapp had begun to doubt whether he should be able to get away for his furlough.

Thank you for the full statement of Prof. Nahigian's investment account. I have not yet seen Prof. Nahigian about it and do not know how he will be pleased with the investment of $112 made in June and July of the past year. It was not intended that the investment should be enlarged, and he expected that $100 to go into the account that is deposited in the savings bank. However that may be, I am quite sure he will be grateful for the care that has been taken of his money, and if he wants that $100 back it can be afterwards withdrawn from his savings deposit. I appreciate fully the difficulty of keeping up the

accounts when the treasurer is able to do so little, and I thank you very much for the time and attention you have given to it. Thank you also for the full statement that you gave in answer to my question about the College income. I have not time this week to look fully into the accounts and so I will postpone to a later time the detailed answer to this letter, but I am grateful to you for going into the matter so thoroughly. I confess I don't see where you get time for all the detail work that you do and find time to write books besides. I think I have heard that remark from three or four people since your book came yesterday. We shall be especially interested in reading it, and all the Harpootlis will claim a share of the pride in it.

The schools open tomorrow and I am in the midst of selling tickets and other preparatory work, so I shall not try to write more until a little more leisure enables me to answer intelligently some of the points raised in your letter.

Yours very cordially,

Henry H. Riggs.

P. S. Miss Poole tells me that Mr. Ward is a member of the Broadway Tabernacle church and suggests that perhaps the church would be especially interested in his coming out as a missionary. If the funds for his support cannot be secured elsewhere, is it not possible that that church would adopt him as their missionary and undertake his support?

H. H. Riggs

Harpoot - Turkey - Jan. 26-1909.

Rec'd MAR 19 1909

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Euphrates College.

HARPOOT, TURKEY, Feb. 16, 1909.

Rev. J. L. Barton, D. D.,

14 Beacon St., Boston, Mass.

My dear Dr. Barton:-

I have just received yours of January 15th reporting a remittance of £300, and by the same mail received checks for the same from Mr. Peet. I appreciate the promptness of this remittance through him.

You report further progress in the matter of Mr. Ward's coming here and it now seems practically settled that he will come. I cannot tell you how pleased I am to have him on the way. As I had written you before, I had become considerably discouraged about the work here in the College and felt that the present situation could not continue; but with Mr. Harper here and Mr. Ward to take the treasury work I feel like taking a new start.

I don't know how much I have written you of the character of our work this year. The new political interests during the first term drove out almost everything else, and I am afraid we must confess that as far as real College work goes, and to a large extent also as far as religious interest goes, the term was not much of a success. The students were restless and their attention was scattered to the four winds of heaven. The teachers felt the defects of the term's work as strongly as anyone, and during the vacation we had two long sessions in which the question of bringing up the tone of our work was very fully discussed. As a result we have begun this term with a new spirit of earnestness, and I feel very sure that the work will be much more satis-

factory than last term's work was. I think that the students too feel a new impulse to do better work, and are starting in with new earnestness. I think I have already written about Mr. Harper's work here. He has taken hold in such a way that I am sure his influence will be a lasting one. He is a friend and brother to the boys and is strongly and constantly on the side of real Christian life, and the boys are beginning to appreciate him. I think I have told you what a strength Prof. Bujikanian is to us. Did you know him before he went to Edinburgh? He used to be rather cold and inclined to be cynical , but his two years away from home, in touch with the men under whom he studied in Edinburgh, have made a new man of him, and he is one of the greatest forces that we have here for uprightness and real, practical Christianity. I think that on the whole, although the past term has not been much of a success, we have reason to hope that the year as a whole will bring forth good fruit in return for the labor that is being expended.

Removal to Mezereh

With regard to the question of the transfer of the College down to Mezereh, you say that you do not consider that the Trustees need to act on the matter at present. What we hoped for when the letter was sent was that some action would be taken immediately so that we could either give up the plan or else feel free to take such steps as we could take here. As you know, we have the promise of money for a gymnasium, and when the permit for that comes we shall naturally go ahead and build unless there is some hope of making the transfer. I was very anxious that the question should be settled one way or another before the actual opportunity to build should present itself. There are a good many other questions which are in the balance just now pending a decision in regard to moving to Mezereh. Of course we do not expect the Trustees

to make any guarantee, as I wrote you; all that we asked was that they should give their consent, and that the Prudential Committee also, if necessary, should give their consent to our making the effort. If we succeed in raising the money, well and good, and if we fail, we fail. But what we wanted was the consent of the official bodies in Boston to our making the effort. If no action has been taken in regard to the matter when this letter reaches you I wonder if you cannot bring it before the proper bodies as soon as convenient so that we can have their answer and can know what to count on. You mention Mr. Rockefeller's possible gifts in the future. That is, of course, something to take into consideration, and yet even if he did give enough money to make the share of Euphrates College a large one the question would still remain whether the Trustees would approve of expending that money in the way suggested. You understand that it has not been by any means officially decided here, but we shrink from presenting it to our Managers until we can have some official sanction from Boston. Possibly the Trustees will take some definite action in the matter at their meeting and we will hear of that in a few weeks.

Thank you for your suggestion about circulars. In the future I think we shall have more to write about than we have in the past, and I shall try to send out an occasional batch of circulars. We have already received one gift of $4 for the press and that more than half pays for the whole batch, so that probably the expense will not need to stand in the way at all.

I enclose a letter for Mr. Ward which I should be very much obliged if you would forward to him as I do not know his address.

With cordial regards, I remain,

Yours very truly,

Henry H. Riggs.

Henry H. Riggs

Harpoot, Turkey Feb. 16-1909.

College

Rec'd MAR 27 1909

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Euphrates College.

HARPOOT, TURKEY, Feb. 24, 1909.

Rev. J. L. Barton, D. D.,

14 Beacon St., Boston, Mass.

My dear Dr. Barton:-

Your letter of January 25th has just come, bringing good news of the gift of $100 for the press. This is a great encouragement to us as it will enable us to start out with a better equipment than I had thought we were going to be able to have. I am ordering some supplies already, and as soon as I know what the charge for the rollers will be I shall probably be able to order more which will make our work more efficient than the order which I have now made out. I am very glad that you ordered the rollers, for those which I had made here are not going to last very long and are not at all satisfactory any way.

The work of our press seems to be opening up in a promising way, and I am going to print a little circular especially in regard to its opportunities and needs. I hope that this may be of some use to you. I will send you a package. I will also write to Miss Lamson and to the giver of the $100.

I do not know whether I have explained in any of my former letters the delay in sending in a detailed financial statement. The fact is that it has been crowded out and delayed and I have not yet got it ready. I have been working over the matter as often as I could get spare time for a long time past, but as I am trying to give the accounts a much more thorough overhauling than I have done for several years past it takes a good deal of time. One purpose of this is to get ready for the report

of the industrial department which you had asked me to make out, and another is to place the college accounts on a more business-like basis. Especially now that Mr. Ward is to take the accounts it will be absolutely necessary to have them in clearer and better condition than they have been. I hope that the meeting of the Trustees was not postponed to wait for this report. If I did not write of it at the time I am afraid that you may have been depending on that report before the meeting of the Trustees occurred.

As I have written you already, we shall wait with very great interest the action of the Trustees in regard to the question of moving down to the plain. Letters from Constantinople yesterday reported good progress in the matter of building permits, both for the hospital and for the gymnasium. It looks now as if we should have the permits for both buildings before summer. I am not willing to start out on the gymnasium until this question of moving to Mezereh is finally settled, and it is my growing conviction that it will never be settled until it is settled in the affirmative. The new regime has given added reasons for making such a move and will make the move much more easy than it was before. The financial difficulty is of course the great obstacle, and yet planning with the future in view, for I believe this college is a permanent institution, even so large an investment as that proposed does not seem too high a price to pay when one considers the possibilities of the work in a better location. With regard to the hospital, perhaps you remember that Dr. Atkinson has expressed his unwillingness to go on with the plan of building it in Mezereh unless the college should be there also. I do not think that the station will agree with him in that, and I think it very likely that if the permit comes we shall begin work at once, although that is still an open question.

I think I have never acknowledged the receipt of the pamphlet on the Higher Educational Work of the Board. It is certainly a very interesting and attractive pamphlet, and I am very glad that you sent it the second time. The first must have gone into the maw of the old regime.

With very cordial regards, I remain,

Yours sincerely,

Henry H. Rogers.

Henry H. Riggs

Harpoot. Turkey Feb. 24-1909.

RECEIVED 1909

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Euphrates College.

HARPOOT, TURKEY, March 10, 1909.

Rev. J. L. Barton, D. D.,

14 Beacon St., Boston, Mass.

My dear Dr. Barton:-

Your letter of Feb. 3d came by the last post. I am intensely interested in what you report of the inquiry of Dr. Hejinian about the cost of a library and laboratory building. I am writing him by this post giving him what information I can. Perhaps you will remember that sometime ago we made out plans and made application for a permit for such a building to be located on top of the wood-shed back of the President's house, which would thus be accessible to both departments. He must have heard of this plan in some way, and if he is willing to finance the undertaking I am sure that it will be a very valuable gift to the College. So far as accommodations are concerned this is our greatest need just at present.

On the other hand, the question of moving the College to Mezereh makes all such plans a little bit doubtful. I shall not indicate this to Dr. Hejinian as we are not saying anything about it here, but I confess that I have not very much enthusiasm now for adding to our building equipment here, because as time goes on and I talk with others and hear their opinions the conviction grows upon me that we shall be obliged to move sooner or later, and if that is true certainly the present is the most favorable time possible. It would be a pity to put up more buildings here if they are going to stand empty as a memorial of short-sightedness. I had a talk the other day with Prof. Nahigian. I did not intimate to

him that we were thinking of the question, but he spoke very earnestly about the desirability of such a move. He says that he is quite sure that if the College stays here it will lose ground in the future; and I presume that if I should make a canvass of all of our intelligent alumni in this region at least ninety-nine per cent. would be of the same opinion. Prof. Nahigian said that he felt sure that if the plan to move was proposed the Armenian supporters of the College would rally loyally towards raising the necessary funds.

The suggestion that the College should open a department of Applied Science is one which I have had under consideration for a good while. In my plans which I drew up at the time when I wrote you about the matter of moving to the plain I drew a sketch of the possible future campus, and among the buildings was one for engineering and one for agriculture. That is a question which it seems to me is somewhat secondary to the one of moving to the plain. It is my conviction that we can never do anything worthy in that line so long as we are here, both because of lack of room and because we are too far from the future center of industries, which will of course be Mezereh. I am not sure but if the plan to move to the plain should be adopted it would be well to strike out at the outset for means of broadening our work as well as improving its location.

I am very glad that Mr. Seron has paid some of his indebtedness to the College. I have not looked up his account as yet and do not know just how it stands, but in talking with Prof. Nahigian, who remembers the man well, I get the impression that this payment of $15 indicates a pretty radical change of heart on the part of that young man, and I am very glad of it. I shall write to him as soon as I have been able to find out just how his account stands.

The other day a great company of Koords, said to number about 2000, from the Dersim, all fully armed, marched through Harpoot and down to Mezereh. The ostensible purpose of their coming was to join the Koordish Political Club. So far as I can understand the situation the real purpose was to comply with the Vali's desire that they should in some way express their loyalty to the Government and thus give the appearance of a final settlement of the Dersim trouble. There are all sorts of rumors. Some say that they were the tribes who were loyal already and that the fighters were still there. One rumor was that they had come to surrender to the Government the army rifles which they captured in the war last summer, but no evidence of these rifles has yet been made to the general public, and I have no doubt that they are being kept for future possible use. The rifles which the Koords carried on their holiday excursion were the good old-fashioned flintlocks. They made a very picturesque procession and I captured a few snap shots, of which I will send you some copies as soon as they are finished. These are interesting days and I wish I had more time to write about those things which are of fascinating interest to outsiders, but I find myself pretty well burdened with my regular work.

Yours very sincerely,

Henry H. Riggs

The other day a great company of Koorda, said to number about 2000, from the Dersim, all fully armed, marched through Harpoot and down to Mezereh. The ostensible purpose of their coming was to join the Koordish Political Club. So far as I can understand the situation the real purpose was to comply with the Vali's desire that they should in some way express their loyalty to the Government and thus give the appearance of a final settlement of the Dersim trouble. There are all sorts of rumors. Some say that they were the tribes who were loyal already and that the fighters were still there. One rumor was that they had come to surrender to the Government the army rifles which they captured in the war last summer, but no evidence of these rifles has yet been made to the general public, and I have no doubt that they are being kept for future possible use. The rifles which the Koorda carried on their holiday excursion were the good old-fashioned flintlocks. They made a very picturesque procession and I captured a few snap shots, of which I will send you some copies as soon as they are finished. These are interesting days and I wish I had more time to write about those things which are of fascinating interest to outsiders, but I find myself pretty well burdened with my regular work.

Yours very sincerely,

Henry C. Cox

Mars 1909.

Rec'd APR 20 1909

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Euphrates College.

HARPOOT, TURKEY, March 23, 1909.

Rev. J. L. Barton, D.D.,
Congregational House,
Boston, Mass;-

My dear Dr. Barton;-

I have received the inclosed letter from Mr. Robinson of the Assyut College. I will inclose a copy also of my reply to him. I do not know what possibility there is of our having still another man, but I thought I would better not let the chance go by. Just on the face of it the application does not look to me like a very promising lead, but of course I cannot judge. You note that he refers to having seen Ernest. Possibly Ernest formed a definite opinion of him, though I do not recollect his having expressed any.

In any case, I amreferring him to you, so that even if we cannot have him, someone else may, if he is promising material,

Yours very sincerely,

Henry H. Riggs.

Harpoot. Turkey. Mar. 23-1909.

Rec'd APR 20 1909

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R. J. ROBINSON,
PROFESSOR OF ENGLISH LITERATURE.

Assiut Training College,

American Mission.

Assiut, Egypt. March 2nd. 1909.

Rev. Henry H. Riggs,
Harput, Turkey.

Dear Sir:—

For three years I have been teaching in Assiut College. My term of service expires in May of the present year. Previous to my arrival in Egypt I had taught a short while in America. I am 23 years old, and am a graduate of Erskine College, South Carolina, my native state. After completing my college course, I was for a short while at the University of Tennessee taking some post-graduate work.

Last summer while travelling in Palestine, I met Prof. Earnest W. Riggs, who was on his way to the states. He explained some of the facts in regard to your college, and something of the nature of the work carried on there. If I am not mistaken, you use short term workers on your faculty. It is in regard to this last fact I write. Will you kindly give me some information —such as one in my condition would naturally desire—as to whether you are in need of teachers the coming year, the length of the term of service, the nature of the work, and any other conditions that are attached to your contract.

You will consider this letter as one of inquiry only. Provided you are in need of such men as myself, a United Presbyterian, and your letter is favorable, I shall be glad to submit such recomendations and certificates of character and of health as I possess.

Trusting to receive a reply from you, I am,

Yours very truly,

R J Robinson

Dr. J. Cooper
Assist-Engr.
Nov. 2, 1909.

Rec'd APR 20 1909

March 23, 1909.

Prof. F. J. Robinson,
Assiut Training College,
Assiut, Egypt.

My Dear Friend:-

I have received your letter of the 24, and can assure you that I am interested in the suggestion that you make. We are in a chronic condition of needing more workers, and have been hoping that we might have an additional American tutor this nex next year,-we have one already.

But I should say to begin with that I am referring the matter directly to our Board of Trustees, as they always select the American workers here. The main obstacle to our having you here is the financial one, and the Trustees will have to consider that. So I am forwarding your letter to them, and I would suggest that you write directly to the Secretary of the Board, Rev. J. L. Barton, D.D., Congregational House, Boston, Mass. You might send directly to him your references and recommendations. I am not at all sure that they will send us another man, but I wish so.

As to the general question of our work and needs here, we are a missionary institution, and the first essential in any candidate is that he should have the missionary purpose, for if he has not, he will not be satisfied here. The salary is very little more than enough to pay expenses comfortably, and we are rather isolated, being two weeks journey from the coast. But I assume that as you have been in a missionary college these things are quite in line with your own ideas.

Our short term workers have thus far been here mainly for the teaching of English. The work is most of it very elementary, and none of it quite such as you would find in an American College, but probably much like yours at Assiut. The term of service thus far has been three years, though there is no cast iron rule on that point.

You mention the fact that you are a United Presbyterian. I assure you that that need not be any hindrance unless you make it so. What is needed here is a lot of unselfish patience and consecration, adaptibility, common sense, and a courage that will not wear out. All of which means, of course, that the man must be a real Christian. I hope this will be enough to enable you to judge whether or not you want to definitely apply for the appointment.

Yours very sincerely,

Dr. F. J. Robinson

Copy. H. H. Riggs to
R. J. Robinson

Rec'd MAY 15 1909

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Euphrates College.

Discusses removal to Mezereh.

HARPOOT, TURKEY, April 22, 1909.

Rev. J. L. Barton, D. D.
Congregational House,
Boston, Mass.

My dear Dr. Barton;-

I have owed you a letter for some time, and must not let another week pass without writing to you. The fact is that I wrote you a letter two weeks ago, but as I read it over it seemed to me that it was put a little too strongly, so I let it wait and cool off, and now I think I would better try again rather than send that one.

The letter was in response to yours of , in which you reported the meeting of the Trustees, and said that in the matter of the moving of the College to Mezireh the sum of money needed was so large that the question was not considered on its merits at any length. I confess that I have felt very much discouraged since getting that letter, though I would not have you think that the letter was the sole or the principal cause of the discouragement. I wish very much that the question might have been considered on its own merits, and faced very seriously indeed. As you say that it was not, I am going to take the liberty to write again, so that after this I may with a clear conscience accept the decision of our Trustees, and wash my hands of its results in the future.

The question has several aspects which have changed since the matter was first broached a couple of years ago. As I wrote you before, my own convictions have undergone a progressive change in that time, and I now feel that the question is one the decision of which is a turning point in the life of the College. It is my belief, and that of many others, that, to put it in a nutshell, the College is going to progressively lose influence if it stays here, and gradually relinquish its leading position. But that if we move down to a more favorable location, it can not only hold its own, but become a far more aggressive and influential institution than it has ever been. I have talked of this only to a few. More have spoken of it to me or in my hearing. I cannot speak positively, but I think that if we should make a canvas of all the Missionaries, Professors and teachers and other real friends of the College here on the ground, there would not be three men who would disagree with the proposition that the College ought to move. And I know that a very large majority of them feel very strongly on the subject. Is it too much to ask, then, that the Trustees take the question up again and give it very careful and intelligent consideration, on the basis of its own merits first, and then consider what is practicable? I do not think that any decision to keep the College up here will stay decided for more than ten years or so. But the decision now taken will determine the investment of a good deal

of money in the next few years; and it looks as if it will determine the success or failure of the College in its attempt to hold the educational leadership of this region. So I feel that it ought to be very seriously weighed before we take steps of importance.

As to the merits of the case I have perhaps already written all that I ought to write to set the facts before you. If my letters of the past ten months are on file in your office, they contain a pretty full discussion of the matter of German competition. And I have recently written you several times of the new competition which is springing up in the native schools, which will grow stronger as the new regime becomes firmly established. At the risk of repeating, I will sum up what has been said on these two points.

To take the second first, this region is by no means virgin territory now, and there are well established schools that are in strong competition to ours. The new national feeling has already drawn away several students this year, but I am sure that the Armenian schools in Mezireh will progress rapidly hereafter, and also lose what religion they now have, and they will be, in the next few years, in a position to hold large numbers of aspiring students and turn them out with good education but with no religion. And the difference of location will be the determining factor which will help them and hinder us. Mezireh and its surrounding towns will grow in importance, while Harpoot is moribund. Location is not everything, but in a close race position in this case may turn out to be the deciding element.

The other element, that of our relationship with the German work, is one that has far more difficult features, and one the seriousness of which does not diminish with time. The Mission at its last meeting gave the matter very earnest and serious consideration, and made recommendations to the Prudential Committee. I do not know how the recommendations struck the Committee, for I do not remember everhearing that they had been rejected, although they do not seem to have been acted upon. Those recommendations looked to a separation of the two working bodies so that they might occupy separate fields instead of being in competition here. It seemed to a majority of the mission that that was the only direction in which hope lay for the future; and those who did not vote for the proposition did not feel that the step was not needed, but that it was too difficult. No other plan was proposed at the time, and I waited a good while before proposing another. You will perhaps recall that I said to you at that time that the case seemed to me so urgent that I felt that if no other solution could be found, it would be better for this College to close up and go elsewhere, rather than continue the present status.

As that proposal bore no fruit, and the situation was getting no more hopeful by inaction, we here in the station considered the question as it effected the College, and we decided, all but unanimously, that if we are to be held to the attitude of competing with our German Friends, we should be allowed to do so on something like

equal terms. The fact of competition is not open to discussion, for the Germans have quietly parallelled our entire educational system, both for boys and girls, and have now just as many students as we have. They are adding new buildings and new equipment, and are growing rapidly, while our attendance is gradually falling off. I wish to emphasize the fact that they have complete preparatory and collegiate departments for both sexes. The only point that is lacking in their system is that some of the Germans themselves do not call the male College by that name, but call it a Seminary. It is, however, in fact a college, and is so called by some of the Germans and by practically all of their own teachers and students. The girls' college, and their preparatory schools are frankly duplicates of ours. So you see it is no longer a question of possible or probable future competition, but of actual present competition that must be faced. We are already losing ground, and there is no immediate prospect of any change in the situation.

I realize that the natural retort from you in America is that we ought to do such good work here that we can hold our ground, with all the prestige that we have inherited from the past. I have nothing to say in defence. I do think that our work ought to be better, and that if it were all that it should be we need not worry about details of place and advantage. But the fact remains that as we are and as conditions are we are being beaten. As I have repeatedly said myself, if it is right for them to have the field, I for one am ready to yield it to them, if it is to be done in an intelligent and fair way. But it goes against the grain to stand in an inferior position and see things drift away from us.

Forgive me if I have been repetitious and insistent in this matter. I will try and leave it at this. If the Trustees will consider this matter fully, I am perfectly willing to accept their decision as final. If they decide that it is better to keep on as we now are, even if it means failure, I stand ready to do my share to turn failure into success here on the hill. Or, I should even more gladly step into a second place and let someone better fitted for it lead the College to success here. But though I should do my level best to belie my own prognostications, my strong conviction is against it.

As to what can be done; I do not anticipate that we can accomplish anything very soon. But if we could open the subject for discussion, and if it seems pretty clear, decide on and announce a change if the money can be raised; and then start in on a vigorous campaign, especially among and through our Alumni. Even if we could not actually move for ten years yet, we would be working along a line in which all here have confidence, and which we should here feel was destined to success and not to failure. We should then cease to invest more money here, in Gymnasium, Library, Laboratory, etc., and bend our efforts to what will be permanent.

I have no time to write in detail in answer to your letter about Dr. Atkinson's return. I certainly hope he will come. But if he does not, it would indeed be a catastrophy if no one else were to come in his place.

Yours truly,
Henry H. Riggs.

Harpoot. Turkey Apr. 22 - 1909.

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College

Rec'd JUN 1 1909

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Euphrates College.

HARPOOT, TURKEY, May 5, 1909.

Rev. J. L. Barton, D. D.
Congregational House,
Boston, Mass.

My dear Sir;-

Will you please send the $200, which I deposited with you on March 12th, to Rev. Henry H. Riggs, to be paid by him to me, here in Harpoot, and oblige,

Yours Truly,

Zakar Kezirian

If this is sent with other funds, please notify me of the rate of exchange, so that I can know how much to pay Mr. Kezirian

Henry H. Riggs.

Sent June 11

W. H. Riggs

Harpoot. May 5-1909.

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JUN 1 1909

Euphrates College.

HARPOOT, TURKEY, May 6, 1909

Rev. J. L. Barton, D. D.,
Congregational House,
Boston, Mass.

My dear Dr. Barton;-

I have received your favors of April 2d and 9th, inclosing drafts on Baring Bros, for £300 and £200 respectively. These remittances are very timely, as we were running short of funds; but it so happened that a few days before the first came one of our merchants, in the time of panic, deposited quite a sum of money with us, so that I shall delay cashing these checks for a while, perhaps until that deposit is wanted. Your statement in your last letter that there is nothing to authorize an expansion of our expenditure came in good time, as we shall have our Managers' meeting soon to plan for the coming school year, and I am glad to have some authritative statement on the subject.

We are expecting Mr. Ward here in a few days,-perhaps a couple of weeks. It will be something of a temptation to set him too hard at work at the very first. I wil try to exercise moderation in the matter. But it is a relief merely to think of being free from this treasury work. I feel very personally grateful to you and to the other friends who made Mr. Ward's coming possible.

We have been passing through thrilling times of late, and it is only as the news from other sources and other regions comes in that we realize how serious our situation really was, for a while. Even now that it is all over, apparently, and affairs seem to be quieting down all around, there is a feeling of uneasiness that it will be very hard to remove. I am not inclined to take thought for the morrow in any wrong way, but I will tell you know that I shall be very much surprised if we do not lose some of our teachers and many of our pupils in the new rush for America that will result from this breaking down of public confidence. I confess that if I were an Armenian, or if I were here on my own account, I should feel very strongly tempted to get out before another squall. It is all right to take one's chances in a country where disorder is rife; but when it is brought to your notice in a most emphatic way that your neighbor is simply waiting for the chance to get his knife into your rib as it has been revealed in the last few weeks here, is it a wonder if the weaker and more timid take themselves out of the way of danger?

Probably others have told you something of the details of what has passed here. After hearing reports of the awful tragedies that have devastated other parts of the country, we do not feel as if our story were of any interest. Yet we saw enough

Euphrates College.

HARPOOT, TURKEY,

to convince us that our escape was a very narrow one, and what happened in Adana would have happened here if we had not been protected in a special and providential manner. And our Turkish neighbors tell us that this time they would have made a full end of all the Christians. I think I am rather slow to believe rumors and suspicions, but I am convinced that the diabolical plan to remove the troublesome Armenian question from this region was not unknown to the man on the throne, and that if the Constitutional Army had delayed a week in removing him from the throne, the storm would have broken upon us in spite of a resolute Vali and enlightened military authorities higher up. Things were pretty well arranged for such a plan, and there were plenty of armed ruffians within call to help carry out the butcher's part of the plan.

You can tell better than we can here whether the storm has really quite past or not. From remarks that are made here it would seem that the old Turks feel that they are really beaten this time, and I guess they will not make any trouble just at present unless some of the Armenians get too foolish in "rubbing it in" But they are waiting for the tide to turn, and if it ever should turn, their wrathewill not have cooled in the course of a few years, I fear. Old Hadji Kerim Effendi,(who got rich under the old regime), when he heard of the fall of Abdul Hamid, is reported to have c cried our,"Vai, vai, vai! Evimiz yukuldu!" (Alas,alas, alas!Our house has fallen down! And I guess that represents the feeling of a large proportion of the Turks of the City. On the night when the accession of the new Sultan was celebrated with fireworks and illuminations, the Turkish houses visible from here,on the Rocks, were in uncanny darkness.

Work has begun on the new Hospital building. As Dr. Atkinson left some of his accounts with me, and I am handling the Medical funds, I suppose it devolves on me to finance the building. So I would request that the funds for the Annie Tracy Riggs Memorial Hospital, be put at our disposal in any way that seems to you best. I believe that some of the funds are deposited in Boston, and some of them in Athens Pa. I would be glad if you will see to it that some of that money, say two hundred pounds, be sent on at once, and a statement of the rest, and of how we should draw it, be sent at the same time or as soon as possible. When Dr. Atkinson left it was arranged that Mr. Carey should superintend the erection of the first building, so soon as the firman was issued, according to the plans made in detail by the Doctor and approve by the station.

Funds have come through safely in unregistered letters, but it seems to me that it would be safer to have letters enclosing drafts of large denomination registered in the mails. we always do it here.

Yours very sincerely, Henry H. Riggs.

Henry S. Riggs

Harpoot. May 6 1909.

Rec'd JUN 21 1909

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Euphrates College.

HARPOOT, TURKEY, May 21, 1909.

Rev. J.L.Barton, D. D.,
Congregational House, Boston, Mass.

My dear Dr. Barton;-

Your letter telling of Dr. Hedjinian's gift for a Library building has just come, and I have only time to write a note. As you probably know, our application for permit to build went in long ago, with that for the Gymnasium. Th things seem to have loosened up a bit and it is quite possible that the permit to build may come along any time now. The summer is the time to build, and if we are to go ahead with the building, we might have it ready for use next year. The question is whether we are to go ahead? As I have written you perhaps too often already, the general feeling among the missionaries is that it is too bad to sink more money here on the hill if it is going to be eventually necessary to pull up and move down to the plain. On the other hand, we cannot halt between two opinions after the permit comes, for there is no question that the building is needed and needed badly.

So I am going to ask you to cable me as soon as possible after getting this letter, giving the final decision with regard to the matter. If you Cable "Build," I will understand that the Trustees do not wish the building delayed because of the possibility of a future move. But if you and the Trustees are favorably considering the question of moving, you will wire accordingly, and we will so shape our course. If you have already written so definitely that there is no need of cabling, then of course we will understand when the letters come, provided only they get here before Commencement time.

No time for more,

Yours very cordially,

Henry H. Riggs.

A. A. Riggs

Harpoot - Turkey - May 21-1909.

Rec'd JUL 19 1909

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Euphrates College.

HARPOOT, TURKEY, June 25, 1909.

Rev. J. L. Barton, D.D.,
Congregational House,
Boston, Mass.

My dear Dr. Barton;-

I have only a very few minutes before the mail goes, in which to barely acknowledge the receipt of your letter reporting the action of the Trustees about moving the College to the plain. I want to thank you for the sympathetic consideration that has been given to our views. I have not yet had a chance to lay the matter before the Managers. It is a question in which we shall have to proceed with great caution, and at the first with secrecy, in order not to defeat our own aim. I can assure you that we shall not do anything rash.

The Commencement is safely over, and although I am quite as busy as ever, light is in sight now, and after a few days I plan to go off for a few days of rest and change. The last half of the year has been a truly nerve-racking time, both in the College and out of it. There have been many discouraging features in the work, especially in the behavior of the Armenians, and particularly of our students. I will confess to you privately that I have almost decided to resign this position for which I have so little fitness. If a man of real strength and force as well as experience an tact could take up the work here he could do so much more to keep things true to their mark. I am greatly run down and depressed at present, but if I do not get out of it soon I cannot hold on much longer. I will see what the summer "vacation" can do for me physically and spiritually.

I shall, as soon as possible, close up the year's accounts, and turn the treasury over to Mr. Ward. This will be an immense relief to me, and I think he is going to swing the work finely! He starts in very well indeed, I think.

Dr. and Mrs. Ward have been here for a few days, and now Dr. Ward has just s started out to meet his sister coming from Marsovan. They and the Riggs contingent have been at the garden the past week. We have a telephone line now, and it is a great institution. The instruments were made here, but they are about as satisfactory as the American made. We expect soon to extend the line to Mezireh. It is a seven-days' wonder to the people.

Yours very truly,

Henry H. Riggs.

Harpoot - Turkey - June 25 - 1909.

Rec'd JUL 31 1909

Euphrates College.

HARPOOT, TURKEY, July 8, 1909.

Rev. J. L. Barton, D.D.,
Congregational House,
Boston, Mass.

My dear Dr. Barton;-

I wish to report to you the progress of matters here with reference to the new buildings for the College, and the question of moving to the plain. As I wrote you a couple of weeks ago, we feel that it is necessary to use extreme caution in the matter. I laid the matter before the Station fisrt. There was one element in the question that I have not mentioned to you, and that is that in the mean time Mr. Peet has written advising us to proceed with the contemplated gymnasium and Library buildings with local permits, without waiting for the property matters to be straightened out in Constantinople.

So the time seemed to be upon us when a decision of some sort must be reached about these two proposed buildings. I laid the whole question before the Station, and they decided on two points. First, that it is their opinion that the new buildings should not at present be undertaken. And second, that the question should not be throw open for discussion by the general public till after some preliminary steps have been taken by the Station. We plan first of all to get some hold on a suitable site. This will be only tentative, but will make it possible, in case the move is made to get the site without paying a fabulous price for it. Then we plan to confer informally with some of the Germans, and try to get them to consider the step as not a hostile move. After this, we shall probably lay the matter officially before the Board of Managers for decision. There is no doubt whatever as to what the general trend of the decision will be. The American members have strongly expressed themselves in favor of the move, and the attitude of the natives has been, for a long time, that a move ought to be made. We have not at once laid the question before the Managers for the reason that the native members of the Board cannot be relied upon to keep the matter to themselves, and a premature announcement of the plan would seriously hamper us in the future. I hope that in the near future we may be able to secure, without drawing on College funds, a large tract adjoining the Hospital site. But of this I am not at all sure.

The financial difficulties in the way, which seem so insurmountable to the Trustees, are not ignored at this end. But we feel that whatever the difficulties, they must be met, in some way or other. I think that there is good reason to be confident that the Alumni will, as soon as the plan is decided upon, immediately raise enough for the first buildings, and I think it will be wise to urge them to do

so, and to at once proceed with building, as soon as may be, without waiting for the other funds, equally important to continuing the work, The actual erection of a building will furnish us a "pou sto", and it will help to move the world. If we can get the first building erected next year, and have the enthusiastic backing of the Alumni, we shall, I feel sure in time get the rest of the money, and will need to proceed only as we get it. To be on the ground is the first step, to my mind.

In haste

Yours sincerely

Henry H. Riggs.

Harpoot - Turkey. July 8-1909

Rec'd SEP 3 1909

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Euphrates College.

HARPOOT, TURKEY, August 2, 1909.

Rev. James L. Barton, D.D.,
Congregational House,
Boston, Mass.

My dear Dr. Barton;-

The enclosed document speaks for itself. I do not need to add much in the way of explanation. I have had the problem in mind for a long time, and it has sometimes been up and sometimes down, but always a problem. As you perhaps remember, I wrote you of it four years ago, and then after a rest and change I decided to try it again. It has seemed like a temptation to weakness, and yet as the years have gone on and I have found no relief, it has grown to be a conviction that my days in this work could not be many. In my own mind I have thought I would stick it out till I could have a furlough, and then not come back. But that would not be the fair thing to do, and I think I ought to decide the matter at once. Then I have been consulting Dr. Ward, both last summer and this, and he thinks that there is no chance of my being really well till I get out of the strain of this work. My trouble is a sort of nervous dyspepsia. It is of long standing, and there seems to be no doubt that the one thing that prevents my getting over it is the constant strain of administration. As an illustration, I might say that I have never during the past year, had a serious case of discipline on hand but what it brought on a sick headache that lasted a couple of days, and hardly a faculty meeting or a Co-operative committee meeting without the same result, in a lesser degree.

I have felt sorry to take this step immediately after such efficient help has been provided as Mr. Harper and Mr. Ward. But it is clear to me that it is the kind rather than the quantity of my work that is the undoing of me. And the presence of these two men would make it a peculiarly favorable time for a new president to work in. Then, too, I feel that with the important changes that the College and the Armenian people are passing through at this time, the new man should have things in hand now, and not have to inherit any more of my blunders than necessary. I would personally like to take the first steps toward establishing the College in Mezireh before I lay down the work. But I think it would be a great advantage to the new man to have that all in his own hands, virgin soil, and the full credit for its success.

As to what my future work shall be, I do not feel at all clear on that point at present. Mrs. Riggs and I both feel that if possible we would prefer to stay in Turkey. I should not feel as if I was making the very best use of my life if I wer in another land. If there were some place where I could fit in as a teacher, or in some other work where I could be free from executive responsibilities, I should be very

glad, indeed. But I am aware that the Board has to pick with care where it can send ~~ou~~ out so few men, and perhaps I would not do with such limitations. If I felt that there was no place for me in Turkey, I could work happily in America, and doubtless find opportunity to work for Turkey, even there. I should want, in any case, to have a rest first, for I fear that without that I should not do good work anywhere.

The question of our remaining here in Harpoot in some other line of work has been raised. I do not know whether, in case there seemed to be call for one more man here it would be wise for an ex-president to be within easy reach. I rather think it would be better not. But of that there is no need of coming to any conclusion at present. Perhaps the question will not come up, and if it did, I should want to trust to the leading of the hour.

In this whole matter, one point that I feel most sorry about is that I am adding to the burdens and perplexities that are already so heavy upon you, and your associates. But I feel that it is the right thing, and not to do it would be a wrong to the College, so personal considerations have to be laid aside. I believe that God is gsiding in the matter. I do not think I did wrong in coming here in the first place nor in remainigg here four years ago. Both of those decisions were the result of much prayer and renewed consecration, and I believe that God had a work for me here in these past years. But now, with the same spirit of seeking His will I have come to the conviction that it is time for me to lay down this work.

I will inclose a statement From Dr. Ward, who has done a great deal to help me through the past year. I do not know what I should have done without his aid, for I was getting into very bad shape last spring; but he does not seem to thing that there is much more that can be done for me.

MrssRiggs and Annie and I are just getting away to the Lake for a few days of rest, in camp.

With cordial personal regards, in which Mrs. Riggs joins, I remain,

Yours very sincerely,

Henry H. Riggs.

Harpoot - Aug. 2-1909.

Explanation of resignation as President of Euphrates College

College

SEP 3 1909

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Euphrates College.

HARPOOT, TURKEY, August 3, 1909.

To the Board of Trustees
of Euphrates College,
Boston, Mass.

Ladies and Gentlemen;-

For several years past it has been increasingly evident that I do not possess the temperamental and physical fitness to carry for long the peculiar burdens and responsibility of my office. The progressive impairment of my health has resulted in a serious deterioration of the efficiency of my work, not to mention the physical suffering involved. I have become convinced that my life would be more useful in some line of service more congenial and more within my capabilities. And more important than that, I am convinced that the success of the College demands that a man should be at the head of it who has the temperamental fitness and the mental and physical vigor which I have not.

I therefore hereby tender my resignation as president of Euphrates College, to take effect as soon as I can be relieved, not later than the summer of 1910. In doing this I wish to acknowledge very heartily the cordial sympathy and co-operation that has been uniformly accorded me by my associates and by you during these six and a half years of my service here. To separate ourselves from this loving fellowship of service will be a real trial to both Mrs. Riggs and myself, and personally we would gladly continue in this work; but we are both convinced that the best interests of the work demand that this change should be made, and made as soon as possible.

This is a transitional period in the life of the College. It is important that the new president be put in control at the earliest possible date, both in order that the work may be kept at highest efficiency at this crucial time, and in order that he may initiate the new policies that shall rule its future.

I have had this step in mind and under prayerful consideration for a long time. Perhaps I have been too slow in reaching a decision; but I now feel sure that the decision is the right one. I believe that the Master will raise up just the right man to do, in the next few years, what I could not do for the progress of the College. And it is in the faith that he will point out some other service where I can be more efficient and pleasing to him that I now lay down this office.

Yours very truly,

Henry H. Riggs.

Harpoot - Aug. 3-1909.

Resignation

Euph. College

rec'd SEP 10 1909

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Euphrates College.

HARPOOT, TURKEY, August 19, 1909.

Rev. J. L. Barton, D.D.,
Congregational House,
Boston, Mass;-

My dear Dr. Barton;-

Your letter of June 6th has been received. I am glad to know, at last something about the Hospital Money, although it was a bitter disappointment, after all these trying months of waiting, that the money was not sent on at once. As you know, sending money through the regular channels involves weeks and sometimes months of delay. Each weeks has also brought its disappointment in not receiving any money on the College account. You wrote early in May that you should send some soon, and it is certainly time that some was sent on, but no money appears as yet. Since Mr. Ward's il illness, I have been obliged to run the treasury, and a combination of errors on all sides has made it a most trying time. Money is hard to get along without, when one is in charge of the treasury, but under the new arrangement for remittances, that seems one of the requirements. I wish that some means could be devised of relieving my successor of this galling burden.

I had hoped this summer to get off several reports, including a pretty full one of the College. But I see that it is going to be quite impossible. I have not been at all well, and having to carry Mr. Ward's work in addition to a considerable accumulation of my own has been really more than I could handle. Mrs. Riggs and I got off for a few days at the Lake, which was a most refreshing change, and I feel much better than I did before.

We are rejoiced at the success of the Together pull. It has been a hard strain on you all, and I know it is in some ways a disappointment, even though the debt is gone. I hope the movement has gathered some real impetus, and will continue to move.

Your end of the work is, I think, harder than ours, after all.

Yours very sincerely,

Henry H. Riggs.

Henry A. Mayo

A. A. Riggs

Harpoot. Aug. 19-1909.

SEP 25 1909

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Euphrates College.

HARPOOT, TURKEY, August 30, 1909.

Rev. J. L. Barton, D.D.,
Congregational House,
Boston, Mass.

My dear Dr. Barton;-

Your letter of July,22, inclosing draft for £150, came last week. Thank you for the remittance and the statement of account. I have not had time to compare it with our record, but shall do so soon. I think it will be well to have the drafts ~~her~~ hereafter sent to Mr. Ward, as there may be occasions when I am away and he should be able to get the money when needed. I can keep track of things sufficiently well from his books, in fact better than I should do from occasional memoranda that I might make as the drafts come in. Would it be any trouble to you to state, in remitting money, the rate of exchange, or the amount of the draft in American as well as in English money. That would be a convenience here in paying sums for others, such as scholarships and Orphan funds.

I was very glad indeed to hear of the legacy of Mrs. Warriner. I do not know anything about her, who she was or how she came to be interested in the College. perhaps this was the fruit of a seed sown in quiet. Some months ago I received notice of the probating of the Will,(is that the right expression?) but as the date set had already passed, I merely replied to the executor giving him your address. I do not remember whether or not I wrote to you at that time. You speak of Mr. Davis estate. ~~Ha~~ Had he left something for the College.

While we are on the subject of funds, I would like to suggest that if there ever comes in some small fund like this which is not strictly limited to use as endowment, it might be invested in such a way that it might be available, temporarily, for an emergency fund. The need which I have especially in mind is to cover the possibility of a rush of depositors or the need for some immediate expenditures such as the purchase of land when an unusual opportunity offers. The matter of depositors has caused me not a little anxiety. We have always had various sums deposited with us for safe keeping, and from the time when I came in, these sums were never kept here, but used for current expenses and then drawn from the treasurer, when called for. But now, as I understand it, the surplus funds are exhausted, and I hope that in the future we shall be able to save enough from regular income to gradually cover these liabilities, but for the present they constitute a possibility of trouble that I do not like to leave unprovided for. It is very likely that such a fund would never have to be drawn upon, as new depositors come in as fast as old ones withdraw, but we cannot be entirely sure

See note on emergency fund

ofit, and a rush of depositors would be a very awkward thing for us. As soon as I am able to do so I will send you a particular statement on this subject.

With regard to the great question of the future location of the College, you speak of the difficulty of getting funds for a transfer. I am sure we here appreciate that difficulty to some extent at least. I presume that our predecessors at the time when the premises were rebuilt after the massacres felt the difficulties of the transfer then, in much the same way. But I feel that a serious mistake was made then, and I do not want my successor to feel the same way about me. Since I have decided to withdraw from this work I feel more strongly than ever that I ought not to put up here in Harpoot new buildings that will in future make a change more difficult. Much as these buildings are needed,-and the need is very great indeed,- I think it would be better to wait several years and then have them in Mezireh. It is, I admit, a very difficult problem, and I am exceedingly anxious that nothing that I do this year shall make more difficult the problems of my successor.

I have for some time had in mind the plan to publish a catalog of some sort in English. But it has been simply impossible for me to get at it this summer, and I do not see how I shall do so evey early this fall. I have not laid up any strength this summer, in fact I am rather run down than otherwise; so I am thinking of getting away for a few weeks as soon as I can get things well started in College. I think I will take a trip with Consul Masterson to Van and some other places en route. As the summer has been an unusually full on, I feel justified, under the circumstances, in taking a vacation a little later. I hope after I get back to do some of the extras that arethus postponed.

Thank you very much for your strong words of cheer and encouragement in our difficulties here. There is indeed much to inspire us, though there are very discouraging elements. I think as a whole we are as a circle rather optimistic. We have just had a rather serious disappointment in the resignation of our Music teacher, Samuel Khachadourian. He has just returned from two years of study in Germany. He went on his own initiative, although the managers, after he had made up his mind to go, voted to continue his salary while he was away. Now he has resigned in high dudgeon because the board of Managers have not at once made him a full Professor. We did not feel that his case would be considered as calling for that honor at once, and he feels that our failure to do so is an insult, at least he so expresses himself. His leaving just at the present juncture is exceedingly embarrassing, and disappointing as well. But the only alternative is to yield his demand of a professorship, so we shall have to let him go. He has promised to refund all that he has received during his time of study.

Sept. 2. The new Vali has arrived, and appears to be a very intelligent and sensible gentleman. The test will be of his energy and power over men, and of that we can only judge later. He talks very well indeed. He made us a call today, a rather unusually prompt return of our call on him the day before yesterday. We are all rejoicing with the Woods in the arrival of little Esther.

Yours very truly Henry H. Riggs.

Harpoot. Turkey. Aug. 30-1909.

Coll.

Defendt.

Rec'd SEP 25 1909

Financial Situation in Relation to Mr. Peet

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/28

Euphrates College.

HARPOOT, TURKEY, Aug. 30, 1909.

Rev. J. L. Barton, D.D.,
Congregational House,
Boston, Mass;-

My dear Dr. Barton;-

I wish to write you a note about the financial situation in its relation to Mr. Peet. I have again turned the handling of all the accounts over to Mr. Ward, who has entirely recovered, so that what I say is not on my own behalf, but rather for his sake. It is too much to ask him to go through the same sort of a mill that Mr. Knapp a and I have had to pass through.

The money for the Hospital building, which we asked for in April, and which you sent forward as a special on July 6, has not yet come to hand. The reason is that for some unknown reason Mr. Peet, who already had more than five hundred liras of our money over and above all charges, put the credit for the Hospital down on his statement and did not forward it; and that in spite of the fact that we had telegraphed him that the money was urgently needed. Only now, after a second urgent telegram he telegraphs that we may draw on him as he has our money.

The facts of the case, in detail, are these. Some weeks ago Mr. Ward drew a check for needed orphan funds on Browne Shipley and Co. London, where Mr. Knapp had deposited that money. This check, for about five hundred Liras, was sent to Mr. Beet, and Mr. Ward drew on him for the amount in smaller drafts that could be sold here. This was all right and Mr. Peet paid the drafts on him, but in the meanwhile Mr. Knapp had taken out the deposit in London and sent it to Mr. Peet to deposit in Constantinople for us, so that the draft on London came back protested to Mr. Peet. All this was duly explained by telegram and letter to Mr. Peet, and he had all the facts and the money in hand, in plenty of time so that he was not in the least embarrassed by the transaction, and made no complaint whatever. But when the money for the Hospital came to him, instead of sending it on as a special, as I think you had directed, he took that money to pay for the protested check, and kept, not subject to our call, more than a thousand liras of funds belonging to the Treasury here. And all this in spite of the fact that we had telegraphed him of our urgent need of money. Now, at last, in reply to a second telegram, he allows us to draw on him for that money, which in all right he should have sent on to us six weeks ago.

I presume that he has some reasonable excuse to offer, perhaps it was an oversight of some sort. I am quite willing to forgive oversights and mistakes, and should not make this complaint, except as it illustrates the working out of a princi-

ple that Mr. Peet applies in his office, which seems to me wrong and unfair, and that I wish might be corrected. That is that he can take trust funds merely transmitted through him, and apply them to other purposes. I have written to him most strongly on this point repeatedly in the past, and my protests have been consistently ignored. When, a year or so ago, the College was in dept to him, and he knew perfectly well that as he had held on to all funds sent for the College, we were absolutely without funds here, he repeatedly kept funds sent to him for transmission to Harpoot, not on the College account, and applied them to the College debt, refusing absolutely to send them on here. In one case it was some money sent by a man in Constantinople to his family here, and as we had no money here to advance the money, I was obliged to keep the poor people waiting untill I could get the money to advance to them, and it was not till long afterwards that Mr. Peet reimbursed me.

Now it does not seem to me right or just for Mr. Peet to make such use of funds intrusted to him for transmission. If he cannot transmit money, he ought to decline to take it. But to take it with the implied promise that he will send it on, and then keep it and apply it to someone else's debt, does not seem fair. Much has been said about more business-like methods in our treasury business, and these acts of Mr. Peet's have, we understand, been in response to demands for stricter methods from Boston. I write this letter with the hope that he may be made to understand that he is not required to resort to such methods. As I said, this particular case, with its somewhat complicated antecedents, may have produced a confusion that might easily be forgiven. But it does not seem to diminish the need for a somewhat clearer sense of responsibility for funds intrusted to him for transmission.

I am not sending a copy of this letter to Mr. Peet, as I have already written him much more fully on this point, and the question at issue seems to be one of principle rather than of detailed cases,-though I do not recollect Mr. Peet's ever having met the issue raised in my letters. I write this to you because it seems to me that the only hope of a correction,-if it be a correction- of this practice is in having instructions sent on from Boston, direct to Mr. Peet.

As to the transmission of College funds, as I have remarked before, I see no objection to their coming through Mr. Peet provided they could come through him without such vexatious delays. But as long as Mr. Peet persists in his present method, it would be better that the College funds come here directly. It would be to the great advantage of Mr. Peet to handle our money, as it gives him the use of the funds for a month or so while his drafts come on here and go back. But we ought not to be required to wait several weeks in addition to that.

Finally, I wish to beg pardon for the earnest feeling with which I write. I wish that I could be free from the strong feeling of wrong that the memory of the past two years has left on my mind, in connection with the treasury business. Now I can entirely lay aside the personal element, as I have passed the burden on to Mr. Ward, but I write the more easnestly in the hope that he may be spared similar suffering.

Yours very truly,
Henry H. Riggs.

Harport. Turkey. Aug. 30-1909.

Cell

SEP 25 1909

Mr Loulejian coming to U.S.

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Euphrates College.

HARPOOT, TURKEY, Sept.2, 1909

Rev. J. L. Barton, D.D.,
Congregational House,
Boston, Mass.

My dear Dr. Barton;-

I have delayed longer than I should have done to write to you about our teacher, Mr. Loulejian, who has started for America. As you know, he goes at the desire of the Board of Managers, and his expenses will be met by the College. His Salary is sixty liras a year, and that is to be paid to him in America. His tuition fees are also to be paid for him. Will you please make arrangements to have these two amounts paid to him as needed. It is possible that he may need something more before the year ends, and he will let you know in advance. Anything over and above his Salary and tuition fees is in the nature of a loan, and we have not put any definite limit to what we shall do in this line. Anything up to thirty pounds will certainly be approved, but if he thinks he needs more than thatI would like to know it and see what arrangements can be made here.

I suppose that it will be necessary to hold some of the funds from the income of the college to cover these charges, and I would like to have a particular account of the payments made to him.

Yours very truly,

Henry H. Riggs.

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Harpoot Turkey Sept. 2-1909.

Telegram

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Rec'd DEC 3 1909

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Euphrates College.

HARPOOT, TURKEY, Nov. 5, 1909.

Rev. James L. Barton, D.D.,
Congregational House,
Boston, Mass.

My dear Dr. Barton;-

Night before last I returned from my vacation trip, and find quite a stack of letters to answer by this post, not the least urgent of which are several letters from you. I cannot now take time to answer them in detail; there are several items that need to be looked up first; but I want to report my return, and at least thank you for your letters.

My journey with Consul Masterson was a most pleasant and refreshing outing, and the visits at other mission stations were helpful and pleasant. We went to Palou, Moush, Van, Bitlis;. then at Hassan Keif we separated, Mr. Masterson going to Mardin and I returning here, Via Diarbekir.

Just a few of the impressions of the places that I visited. Moush is in the hands of the Germans, and I hope in time they will make a strong station of it. They have not secured a location that is at all satisfactory, and the result has been that illness has greatly discouraged them, and it is possible they may find it hard to keep anyone there. I hope they will succeed there, for certainly the policy of having separate stations is the right one. At Van I was deeply impressed with the great possibilities of the city itself, and of the surrounding country. They surely should have a growing school there,- eventually a College. But it should be strongly supported now, or the Armenian national movement will get in ahead of them, and that is in the hands of bad men, I fear. There are many strong and hopeful young men working with the Christian forces there, and the future must surely see great growth. It is most unfortunate that there is no working understanding with the German friends there. I only saw Herr Spörri once, as he was away while I was there. But it seems most unfortunate that the general policies of the two Boards cannot be defined so as to avoid the friction that is surely in store for the work there soon. I understand the the Germans intend entering the general missionary work in that region, without any cosultation or recognition of the American forces already at work. I have frequently expressed my opinion about the relationship of our work and that of the Germans. What I learned at Van only serves to greatly strengthen my conviction that the future will bring nothing short of disaster unless our Board at home enters into a very definite agreement with the German Board as to the occupation of the field. Leaving the matter to the missionaries in each station to settle puts the

Relations to Germans

missionaries in an impossible position, as personalities are bound to be elements in the question, at least in the minds of the natives. The request of the Mission at its meeting here seemed to me right and sensible, but I do not know what was thought of it in Boston. It would seem that in Van it will be too late if no action is taken this year.

Bitlis is not so impressive a place as Van. There seems strangely little to work on there, now. It struck me that the missionary force ought to be either much stronger or else weaker. Is it worth while to keep up the machinery of a station and demand of the workers such self-sacrifice as they are making, when the possibilities of the field, with the Moush part removed, seem so small? However, the impression of a very brief visit may be all wrong. I am only givinm you the impressions for what they may be worth in connection with other and stronger evidence.

At Diarbekir I was present last Monday evening at the reconciliation of the two divisions of the Church. Badv. Giragos and Prof. Tenekejian had been working with the two parties for some time, trying to persuade each to make the concessions necessary for a reunion. They had so far succeeded by Sunday that Monday they got the two parties together, and an agreement was arrived at. I hope that they will morship together in the Church on Sunday. Very serious questions, as to their future Askabed an pastor, were left for future decision of the united church. There remains much to be desired both as to spirit and as to manner of adjustment. But I am exceedingly hopeful of good results, mainly because most of the compattants were sick and tired of the strife, and were convinced that union is worth almost any price.

One of your letters that was awaiting my return was that in answer to mine resigning the presidency. I want to thank you for the cordial and sympathetic way in which you wrote. I will confess that I rather dreaded that letter, lest my action should be misunderstood; but your sympathetic letter is a comfort to me. This trip has been very refreshing, and will, I hope give me strength for the winter's work. But I am more than ever convinced that I must not be too confident of my strength at present, and if I shirk a good deal this year, it will be on principle, and not from inclination or preference.

With cordial regards, in which Mrs. Riggs joins, I remain,

Yours very sincerely,

Henry H. Riggs.

Henry A. Riggs

Harpoot Turkey Nov. 5-1909

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Rec'd DEC 10 1909

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Euphrates College.

HARPOOT, TURKEY, Nov. 11, 1909.

Rev. J. L. Barton, D. D.,
Congregational House,
Boston, Mass;-

My dear Dr. Barton;-

Several letters of your waited answer last week, and I was only able to barely acknowledge them. Now I want to write a little more in detail. But first I would acknowledge the receipt of your letter of Oct. 7th, by the last post, in which you tell of your correspondence with Mr. Huntington about a possible call here. I called a meeting of the Station last evening and read them your letter. They all felt that if Mr. Huntington can be secured, that is the best possible thing to do. The Station therefore voted, and I was commissioned to transmit the vote, "To request the Trustees to appoint Rev. George H. Huntington President of the College." This, in brief form represents the convictions of the Station, and very strongly my own conviction, that he is the man for the place. I have written him myself, and I think two or three others will write, also. It remains now to await the result, and to pray that God will lead his own man to the place.

Your letter about the Pushmanian scholarship, and Mr. Pushman's state of mind, came as a merited rebuke to me for so neglecting correspondence of late. I am very sorry that I have allowed the matter to wait so long. One letter, and probably two, that I wrote some months ago, failed to reach him, but I knew of that before I went off on my trip, and should have written then. I wrote last week, and hope that he will pardon the seeming neglect. I have just learned that my letter to Dr. Hedjinian, written on hearing of his gift, never reached him. He wrote to Dr. Barnum that he had received an empty envelope with the Harpoot Post-mark, and wondered if it was perhaps a letter from me. I shall write him again today.

I have not had time to take up the matter of accounts yet, and a good deal remains yet to be done before I am quite through with them. As soon as I have finished I shall of course send you a full report, including, among other items, a detailed statement of the status of the deposit account, of which you wrote. Your letter of Sept. 28 came while I was away, with your remittance of £250 Sterling. Mr. Ward calls my attention to the fact that no remittance has been received covering the July income from the Investment. I feel sure that if another remittance had been sent you would have mentioned it. Still I am a bit anxious, lest some loss may have happened somewhere. In your schedule you put the income in July as something like

(Whole financial situation reported to Mr. Ward Nov. 16 by Dr. Barton)

$1200, but in your letter of Sept. 21 you say "There is not a great deal of the income of the fund available during the summer". Possible the investment has been changed, and thus the time of income maturing. If so, we should have a new list, for we depend on the coming of the money according to the list.

Your letter about my resignation was a most helpful and cheering one, and I want to thank you again for it. With regard to the whole matter, I have a fundamental faith in Divine guidance in the lives of his servants, and I believe that God has led, both in my entering the work and in my leaving it. You and others are very kind in your expressions about my service here; I see as others cannot the failures and mistakes that I have made. But I have given seven years of my life to the College and I believe God will make use of the effort that I have made; I can well leave to Him the estimate of its value. I hope I may have grace to be faithful for the rest of the year, till my successor arrives, and strength to do the work at least fairly well. I shall leave the work with no bitter regrets of any sort; but with profound gratitude to God and to my fellow workers for the love and forbearance and sympathetic helpfulness that has uniformly been shown me. And for the untiring and unfailing support and sympathy and encouragement that has flowed over the wires from the central Office in Boston.

As to my future work, it is very kind of you to assure me I will still be needed here. I confess I do not feel so sure of it. I will be glad to help out in installing my successor if that seems best, but I hope we may be given a year's furlough next year, and after that I think the question ought to be pretty frankly discussed whether it would be better for me to work here or elsewhere. As to personal preference, if that had any weight, Mrs. Riggs and I are both too strongly bound to the work and the workers here to wish to go anywhere else. It would be a hard wrench to pull up our roots from here. But of course the interests of the work, and especially of the College, must have first consideration.

We shall eagerly await word of Mr. Huntington's attitude on the question of a call here. It seems as if he is certainly the one indicated for the place, and it would bea great relief to all concerned if the question of a new president could be so soon and so happily solved.

With warm regards, I remain as ever,

Yours very sincerely,

Henry H. Riggs.

Henry H. Riggs

Harpoot - Turkey - Nov. 11-1909.

Coolage

Rec'd JAN 8 1910

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Euphrates College.

HARPOOT, TURKEY, Dec. 6, 1909.

Rev. James L. Barton, D.D.,
Congregational House, Boston, Mass.

My dear Dr. Barton;-

Perhaps you remember that in your letter of Sept. 8 you wrote about my future work, and mentioned the possibility of a technical department of this College sometime in the future, and asked what I would think of being at its head, in case such a plan ever developed. I do not think I mentioned that suggestion in my answer to that letter, and possibly you thought it did not appeal to me. The reason, however, was quite the opposite. I have not felt that I was ready to say anything about my future work. Ever since last summer, that has been the subject of frequent talks and daily prayers. Mrs. Riggs and I have prayed constantly that God would show His will, and gradually my own mind has come to a pretty clear position, and I believe it is in answer to our prayer. Not that I have felt anxious or distressed about the future. But we have sought to face fairly the questions that have followed my resignation, and form for ourselves at least, an opinion.

In the first place, in regard to our future location, while our preference from our personal standpoint would be strongly for remaining here, we are perfectly willing, if that seems best, to accept a transfer elsewhere. At the same time, I do not feel as strongly as I did at first that we <u>ought</u> to go elsewhere. Remarks that several friends have made have favored our remaining here, and if, after the new President has been chosen, it seems best to him and to the station, we would not wish to make any move for a transfer.

Then as to the character of my work, I have thought a great deal. The touring work was my first love. It was a great disappointment to me to be transferred to the educational work when I was just starting the evangelistic in Cesarea. Yet I realize that I have no peculiar natural fitness for that work, and so far as my health is concerned, I do not feel sure that I should get along any better at touring than at my present work, unless I took up the touring work in a superficial way, which would not at all satisfy me. Moreover the training of the past seven years has put me far better in touch with the educational work than I ever was with any other. I feel that I know the problems and needs of students a little, and have,,as it were something of an education in educational work. I have gradually come to the conviction that, if it is possible, it is desireable for me to be in educational work as my missionary calling, rather than in any other department. I have been slow to arrive at this opinion, and even now, if it should become clear that there was a providential leading for me to go into evangelistic work, I should accept it with far

less personal regret than I felt when called out of that work into the educational. But the choice of my head and heart now would be to be a missionary teacher, whether here or elsewhere.

Another line of thought I would like to mention. The young men of this country are going to be far more demanding than ever before, and every man ought to make use of the best that is in him. I have natural tastes and abilities in the scientific line; I should feel that,-entirely aside from questions of preference or tastes, - I should be stepping from a position of less real influence to one of greater if I should be transferred from the place of President of this college to that of teacher of Physics or Chemistry. I feel that I should have a leverage with which to win, such as I could not have in any other line, the young men who are best worth winning.

In one word, after much prayer and thought I have come to look on the educational work as that for which I am best fitted, and if I can be assigned to some place as teacher, I should be very glad indeed, while I should make no complaint if th the assignment were to some other line of work, provided my health could stand it.

At the same time I realize that the finances of the College are not in a position to support another American teacher, though as you perhaps recollect I have in former years strongly urged the necessity of such additions to the college force. So far as I can see, the only chance for such a plan here would be if the Board were willing to take me on as a missionary, but let me devote most of my time to the College work.

All this, perhaps is premature on my part. I had thought that perhaps we should be allowed a furlough next year, and the question of my future work need not come up till after that. But as the Careys are to have their furlough this year, I do not see any chance of our getting away, and I ought to be set to work at something else as soon as my successor takes up the presidency.

We readin the papers of an enormous gift to Robert College. They ought to found a university with a million and a half. I wonder if that will make it harder to get Mr. Huntington away from there. I wish we could hear that he is willing to come.

Very cordially yours.

Henry A. Riggs.

Henry H. Riggs

Harpoot, Turkey Dec. 6-1909.

Teaching in Technical Dept.

College

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RECEIVED
C. H. PATTON
JUN 20 1908

Rogers
Van, Turkey
May 25, 1908.

Dear Dr. Patton,

As Miss Norton expects to leave us early this summer, her position as Kindergartener will be vacant and I have written to ask Miss Caroline Silliman, of New Canaan, Conn, if she will be a candidate for the position. Miss Yarrow also has written to a friend who may apply to you and we hope that one of these at least may prove satisfactory to the Prudential Committee, and be able to come. The work will necessarily suffer until the place is filled and we believe that either of the two will fill it well.

Miss Silliman one or two years after graduating from the New Britain Normal School was called back as a teacher in the Model School where she has charge of training Normal Students. Unlike most teachers, Miss Silliman is very active in church work, the church of which I am a member in New Britain, Conn. Last year she was president of the Christian Endeavor Society. She teaches a class of High School boys in Sunday School, most of whom became members of the church at the last communion. In other kinds of

church work too, she has partic
with her whole soul. I never
anyone whose health would a
to do more, if as much as she.
worries, but is exceptionally ea
work with. She has a limitless
of enthusiasm, optimism an
in God, and in these troublo
times she is just the sort of
we need. Her primary-schoo
will fit her to take charge of
primary department of this s
addition to the Kindergarten. Al
she has not had the entire Ki
training, she can take time
coming to study up the metho
somewhat.

We hope that if it is Godi
she may come to us.

Very sincerely,

E. Gertrude Roge

JUN 29 1908

Van, Turkey, June 1.

Rev. James L. Barton
Boston.

Dear Dr. Barton,

Your good letter to Miss Norton came by the last post and we all second your words of appreciation of her work. There is not time to tell you how much we shall miss her.

Because of the absence of Dr. and Mrs. Fischer and corresponding decrease in the number of force here, it seems to us especially important that Miss Norton's place be filled immediately.

One fact that impressed me during my journey to Van last autumn was that the number of Americans at Van is smaller in relation to the work, than in any other station I visited. Perhaps because of discouraging conditions it may not seem wise to enlarge the force much, but we cannot hold our own if it is decreased by three members, — the Ushers and Miss Norton — for one year without at least one addition. Although the conditions are somewhat discouraging, there seems to me no

question but that the work is makin
steady headway here. Perhaps bec
I look at it with new eyes, I see
progress which these missionaries
have made and the great good the
are doing to the people of Van, and
I feel that their reports to the Board
speak too modestly of it all. Repor
before I came, made me think that
conditions were worse than I have
found them. My opinion is not of much
weight, but it seems to me
decidedly worth while to keep our
ranks here full. Because more
responsibilities must come on each
person here than in a station where
there are more Americans among
whom to divide, we want to put in th
strongest plea we can, for a success
to Miss Norton this summer.

Although I do not know the langua
well yet, I will be responsible when
school opens in the autumn for the
entire school which Miss Norton has ha
since Miss McLaren left, also for th
Kindergarten which has been closed a yea
but which will be reopened this autumn
also for Mrs. Usher's lace work until
Mrs. U. returns. I cannot continue
my language study as I should
and do justice to all these. There a
so many interesting things to do he

I am exceedingly happy in the work. My health is fine and I have no fears for that, but the work must suffer unless a new person can come to begin on the language so as to be ready in a few months to give us some help.

Several months ago I wrote Miss Caroline Silliman of New Canaan, Conn, who teaches in the Normal School, of New Britain, asking if she would be willing to apply for the position, and come if she were accepted by "the Board". The last post brought her reply that several months before she heard from me she had applied to the American Board for a position and that she would be especially happy if she might be assigned to Van, if she should be accepted. It seems to us providential that her papers already are in and that she is willing to come, if the Board decide in her favor.

The members of this station unanimously wish me to earnestly petition the members of the American Board to send her to us.

They wish me also to state to you that the division to be made between German and American work here, this summer will add to the duties of us, who are in charge of the orphans.

After the delay in finding someone for Bitlis, am I not correct in judgi that it is difficult to find young people who choose stations in this part of the Eastern Turkey mission? So although stations in other parts of the world have waited longer than we, and also have great needs may we not entreat that since Miss Silliman wishes to come to us she may be sent here instead o elsewhere. We fear that it may be long before another is found so wel fitted, who is willing and feels called here.

The missionaries wish me also to a that if possible she come with the Maynards who have been appointed to Bitlis. Probably it will be necessa for Mr. Yarrow of Van to take the trip to the border of Turkey to bring the Maynards to Bitlis. This means several weeks' absence and large expense for caravan, escort, etc at a busy time of the year. The cost to t Board and trouble to Mr. Yarrow wil be much ~~reduced~~ less if they all come at once than if he makes two trips. If Miss Silliman comes alone, it will be necessary for Mr. Yarrow to go on to Batoum to meet her. He and Dr. Rayno

ask me to ask you to plan for them to come through Russia, by way of Batoum and Tiflis. He will meet them with Van horses at the border line between Russia and Turkey.

It is important for them to reach here as early in the autumn as possible. I sailed Sept. 14 last year, and reached Van Oct. 31. It would not be safe to plan to reach here later because of snows and cold on mountains which are crossed and because of frequent and necessary delays at different stages. We hope they can come earlier.

May we hear from you at your earliest convenience in regard to Miss Dillman's coming, the route and time of reaching here, in order that we may plan accordingly.

It is a joy to me that God called me to Van because the need is so great, and I believe that Miss Dillman will love the work and people as I do.

Forgive the blunt wording of the above entreaties, for we know that the Officers of the American Board are as desirous of granting our requests that as we are of receiving. and that it

is only the lack of volunteers and funds that causes deficiency.

Since reaching Van I have realized more than before, the value of the conference for missionary candidates in Boston last year, and I would like to express from this end my appreciation and thanks for it.

Very sincerely,

E. Gertrude Rogers.

Johanna T. Graf
Mardin, Turkey Tur. 1906.

E. Gertrude Rogers
Van - Turkey - June 1 - 1906.
Answer

SEP 2 1909

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Gertrude E. Rogers
Van, Turkey, Aug. 3, 1909.

Dr. James L. Barton,
Boston.

My dear Dr. Barton,

I want to thank you and Mr. Bell for your kind letters of sympathy of April 29th. We know that a kind Father knew what was best for Miner's life and had a plan for it, and that Miner himself would not wish us to mourn because he had the honor of being one of the martyrs of the cross. I am so glad that I have the privilege of living in Turkey during these years of transition, and of helping a little in the work that Miner loved.

Van has been very safe this spring. Probably Dr. Raynolds has informed you. I have been writing Miss Samson a report of the Revolutionary problems in the Girls' School. We trust that they are settled and we are looking forward

to a year of freedom from Revolutionary influence. At least we shall try so hard to prevent the entrance of such an influence again.

Sincerely,

E. Gertrude Rogers.